NEWS

CANADA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

INFORMATION DIVISION
OTTAWA

S-28
For Immediate Release
N -- ASL

Subject: FEDERAL AID FOR POTATO GROWERS

OTTAWA, March 27, 1968 -- Agriculture Minister J. J. Greene today announced a program of federal assistance to commercial potato growers across Canada.

Working through the Agricultural Stabilization Board, the federal government will pay each grower $25.00 per eligible acre up to a maximum of $400 per farmer, based on his 1967 crop. Payments will not be made on crops of one acre or less.

Mr. Greene said:

"Prices received by growers have been extremely low for two straight years. Low prices in the winter of 1966-67 were the direct result of overproduction in Canada in 1966. But low prices during the winter of 1967-68 were not the fault of Canadian farmers. Our growers cut back acreage in 1967 and production was down to the point where reasonable prices could be expected.

"However, supplies in the United States

NEWS

NADA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

INFORMATION DIVISION
OTTAWA

S-33
For Immediate Release
N ASL

Subject: WOOL DEFICIENCY PAYMENT

OTTAWA, April 1, 1968 -- Agriculture Minister J. J. Greene today announced that a deficiency payment of 27.9 cents per pound will be made to producers for eligible grades of wool marketed in the 1967-68 year ended yesterday (March 31).

The volume of wool graded in the 12-month period and qualifying for price support payment amounts to approximately 3.3 million pounds. Payments to some 18,000 producers will total about $924,000.

To receive a deficiency payment, a producer must have marketed at least 20 pounds of wool of eligible grades at a registered wool warehouse during the year.

The 27.9 cents rate of payment represents the difference between the

NEWS

CANADA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

INFORMATION DIVISION
OTTAWA

S-77

For Immediate Release
N ASL

Subject: EGG PRICE SUPPORT PROGRAM

OTTAWA, May 7, 1968 -- Agriculture Minister J. J. Greene today announced that the Agricultural Stabilization Board has been authorized to support the price of eggs at 34 cents per dozen, basis Grade A Large national average, for the 1967-68 year.

The support price in the deficiency payment program is approximately 98 per cent of the national 10-year average price to producers.

The program covers the 12-month period ending September 30 and, like previous programs, Grade A eggs of Extra Large, Large and Medium size are eligible for support payments.

The support price will apply up to a maximum of 10,000 dozen eggs marketed by an eligible producer. To be eligible for a deficiency payment under

NEWS

NADA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

INFORMATION DIVISION
OTTAWA

S-96
For Immediate Release
N - ASL

Subject: LAMB, WOOL SUPPORT PROGRAMS

OTTAWA, June 7, 1968 -- Agriculture Minister J.J. Greene today announced details of the 1968-69 price support programs for lamb and wool.

The programs for the 12-month period ending next March 31 provide a support price of $18.80 per hundredweight, national liveweight basis, for lamb and a price of 60 cents per pound for wool of eligible grades.

The lamb program applies to Choice and Good grades in a carcass weight range of 35 to 56 pounds.

A wool producer, to be eligible for a deficiency payment under the 1968-69 program, must market at least 20 pounds of wool of eligible grades through a registered wool warehouse during the year.

The national average price to lamb producers last year amounted to $25.12 -- exceeding the support level by $6.32 per hundredweight.

Canada imports many times her own production in wool and also considerable quantities of lamb.

Government support programs for the sheep industry have been aimed at encouraging farmers to produce more wool and lamb to reduce our dependence on imports, Mr. Greene said.

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NEWS

NADA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
INFORMATION DIVISION
OTTAWA

S-97

For Immediate Release
N-ASL

Subject: SUGAR BEET SUPPORT PROGRAM

OTTAWA, June 7, 1968 -- Agriculture Minister J.J. Greene today announced the federal government's price support program for the 1968 sugar beet crop.

Sugar beets will be supported, through deficiency payments, at a national average level of $15.98 per standard ton (250 pounds of sugar), delivered to the processing plant.

The support program insulates Canadian growers against serious drops in world sugar prices. Sugar beets are being grown in Alberta, Manitoba, and Quebec.

The national average support price at $15.98 per ton of beets will result in growers being protected by the same level of support as last year. In 1967, in calculating the average support price, Ontario production was included. Ontario prices tended to be somewhat lower than elsewhere and this made for a lower overall average -- $15.50 per ton in 1967.

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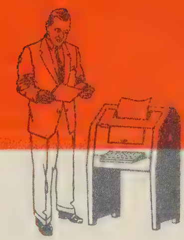
NEWS



NADA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

INFORMATION DIVISION
OTTAWA

S-138
For Immediate Release
N ASL

Subject: EGG PRICE SUPPORT PROGRAM

OTTAWA, October 21, 1968 -- A deficiency payment of 4/10 of a cent per dozen of eggs was announced today by the Agricultural Stabilization Board.

The payment applies to eggs marketed in the 1967-68 support year which ended September 30, 1968.

The weighted national average price received by producers for Grade A Large size eggs in the support year was 33.6 cents per dozen -- 4/10 of a cent below the support price of 34 cents. Total payments to producers will amount to approximately $500,000.

The Board noted that the surplus egg purchase program carried out in 1967/68 under the Agricultural Products Board Act had played a major role in stabilizing producer returns during the year. These purchases, in the form of egg powder, are to be used by the Government in external aid programs.

To be eligible for the deficiency payment, producers must be registered with the

NEWS

NADA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
INFORMATION DIVISION
OTTAWA

S-167
For Immediate Release
N

Subject: SUGAR BEET DEFICIENCY PAYMENT

OTTAWA, December 19, 1968 -- Agriculture Minister H.A. (Bud) Olson today announced a deficiency payment of $5.41 per standard ton of sugar beets marketed by growers in the 1967 crop year.

This total deficiency payment includes the interim payments made by the Agricultural Stabilization Board to producers in Ontario, Manitoba and Alberta earlier in the year.

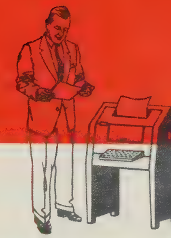
Cheques will be issued to growers as soon as possible after final information is obtained from processing plants. It is expected this will be in a week or 10 days.

Last year growers received a deficiency payment of $4.83 per standard ton on their 1966 crop. A standard ton of sugar beets is one that produces 250 pounds of sugar.

The 1967 sugar beet crop was supported at $15.50 per standard ton. The 1968 crop is supported at $15.98 and, as in the previous year, the Board has been authorized to make interim payments on the 1968 crop.

NEWS

NADA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
INFORMATION DIVISION
OTTAWA



T-20
For Immediate Release
N

Subject: HOG PREMIUM CHANGE

OTTAWA, March 25, 1969 -- Effective March 31, the federal government's hog quality premium of $3.00 will apply to carcasses with an index score of 105 or higher.

Since the new hog grading system was introduced December 30, 1968, the $3.00 premium has been paid for carcasses scoring 103 or higher.

Because consumers prefer lean and large pork cuts, under the new valuation system farmers are paid more for the production of carcasses that yield a higher proportion of lean meat. The new valuation system was proposed by producers and processors.

The Canada Department of Agriculture will continue, for a limited time, to offer its quality premium as a double incentive to farmers to adjust their breeding and management to the production of the highest-scoring carcasses. Because the new grading system will recognize and reward those farmers marketing superior quality hogs, the need for the continuation of the quality premium is sharply reduced. That's why the $3.00 premium will apply only to top-quality animals.

As farmers aim for higher standards, consumers will benefit by receiving a larger volume of the type of pork they prefer. In addition, Canadian farmers will improve their competitive position on the export market.

NEWS

ANADA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
INFORMATION DIVISION
OTTAWA

T-22
For Immediate Release
N

Subject: DAIRY POLICY ANNOUNCEMENT

OTTAWA, March 31, 1969 -- I wish to inform the House that the support price for manufacturing milk for the year commencing April 1, 1969 has been set at $4.85 per hundred pounds of milk testing 3.5 per cent butterfat. This is the same level as that established on April 1, 1968.

As Honourable Members are aware, the returns received by manufacturing milk and cream shippers come mainly from the market price and partly from subsidy. The market price, in turn, is related to the support prices established by the Canadian Dairy Commission for the major dairy products. The federal government, of course, cannot fix prices to be paid for milk and cream within a province, but the support price for milk is based on the calculated market value of milk in relation to product support prices under normally efficient operations.

The Canadian Dairy Commission is announcing today that its support price on skim milk powder will remain at 20¢ per pound and that on butter will continue at the 65¢ level set last September. This butter price is two cents higher than that in effect on April 1, 1968, with a corresponding increase in the market value of milk and cream as compared to a year ago. To supplement the market value, and provide the $4.85 support level, the rate of direct subsidy for manufacturing milk and cream will be $1.25 per hundred pounds of milk, with an equivalent rate for cream.

...2

The dairy stabilization program is based on the principle of providing an equitable return to efficient producers for the amount of manufacturing milk and cream required for dairy products for the Canadian market. This is the basis of the Dairy Commission's subsidy quota system. There is, however, concern over the present volume of surplus products and indications of a further increase.

There is a serious surplus of skim milk powder. Butter production since last October has been 10 per cent above a year ago. In 1968 the Commission had to purchase 8 million pounds of surplus cheddar cheese to support the market price on that product and British authorities are considering restraints on cheese imports into that country. These surpluses are occurring at a time when international prices for dairy products are seriously depressed as a result of world over-production.

Representations have been made to the government by producer organizations for an increase in the milk support price for the coming year. I feel sure they will appreciate, however, that in light of the market situation any further increase in product prices at this time would not be warranted. However, the government will undertake to provide sufficient funds to ensure that any changes in producers net incomes are not the result of a lower support level but rather are because of increases in the cost of moving surplus dairy products into export.

The cost of disposing of surpluses must be financed by the Canadian Dairy Commission out of the funds provided to it for subsidies. This is in accord with the policy that has previously been enunciated by the government and which is well understood by producers and their representatives that the cost of such disposal must be a charge against the industry. For this purpose the Commission makes a holdback against subsidy payments. The present rate of holdback on milk is 21¢ per hundred pounds. Effective with deliveries on and after April 1 the Commission will require an average holdback from milk subsidies of 29¢.

...3

The holdback on cream will continue for the present at the existing level of one cent per pound of butterfat. However, should the present trend of increasing supplies of butterfat continue, an adjustment in the holdback on both cream and milk may be necessary.

On the other hand, if the supply or the international market price situation for dairy products were to improve significantly, it could be possible that the Dairy Commission would be in a position to refund a portion of the holdback to producers.

Since the cost of disposal of excess production is a charge against producers which reduces their net returns, it is important to the position of the industry that every available means be used to ensure against unmanageable surpluses. We have already had some discussions with organizations on this and I have instructed the Commission to pursue this actively with the organizations.

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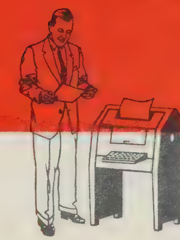
NEWS



NADA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
INFORMATION DIVISION
OTTAWA

T-25
For Immediate Release
N ASL

Subject: WOOL DEFICIENCY PAYMENT

OTTAWA, April 1, 1969 -- Agriculture Minister H.A. (Bud) Olson today announced that a 29.4 cents per pound deficiency payment is being made on the 1968-69 wool clip. In 1968 the payment was at the rate of 27.9 cents per eligible pound.

The deficiency payment, which represents the difference between the support price of 60 cents per pound and the national average market price received by Canadian producers, applies to eligible grades of wool marketed by producers in the twelve-month period ended yesterday.

Volume of wool graded during the 1968-69 period and qualifying for price support payment amounts to approximately 3,000,000 pounds. Payments to some 17,000 producers will amount to about $900,000. To qualify, a producer must have marketed at least 20 pounds of wool of eligible grades through a registered wool warehouse during the twelve months.

The lower market prices received by Canadian producers for their wool in 1968-69 was the result of a downturn in world prices for the product.

NEWS

NADA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
INFORMATION DIVISION
OTTAWA

T-52
For Immediate Release
N-ASL

Subject: SUGAR BEET SUPPORT PROGRAM

OTTAWA, July 22, 1969 -- Agriculture Minister H.A. (Bud) Olson today announced the federal government's price support program for the 1969 sugar beet crop.

Sugar beets will be supported, through deficiency payments, at a national average level of $15.98 per standard ton (250 pounds of sugar), delivered to the processing plant.

The support program insulates Canadian growers against serious drops in world sugar prices. Sugar beets are being grown in Alberta, Manitoba, and Quebec.

The national average support price at $15.98 per ton of beets will result in growers being protected by the same level of support as last year.

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NEWS

NADA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

INFORMATION DIVISION
OTTAWA

T-74
For Immediate Release
N, ASL

Subject: EGG SUPPORT PROGRAM

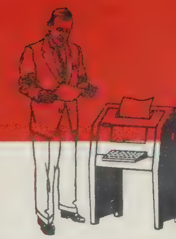
OTTAWA, October 28, 1969 -- The national average price to producers for Grade A Large eggs amounted to 42.3 cents per dozen for the 1968-69 support year ended September 30, the Agricultural Stabilization Board announced today.

There will be no deficiency payment to producers under the 1968-69 program which provided a floor price of 80 per cent of the base price (ten-year average) under the mandatory provisions of the Agricultural Stabilization Act. The previous ten-year average on a national weighted basis was 34.6 cents per dozen for Grade A Large eggs.

The weighted average price for Grade A Large eggs for the entire year has only been exceeded once in the past ten years and that was in 1966 when the year's weighted average price was 42.4 cents per dozen.

Chick placements since January 1, 1969, are up 14 per cent and even with allowances for heavy replacement of old hens it is expected that the volume of egg marketings will remain high throughout 1970 with corresponding price deterioration. No substantial upturn in prices is likely until layer numbers begin to decline. A cutback of pullet placements this winter and next spring appears necessary to bring egg production in the second half of 1970 into line with market requirements.

NEWS



NADA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

INFORMATION DIVISION
OTTAWA

T-82
For Immediate Release
ASL

Subject: WOOL SUPPORT PROGRAM

OTTAWA, November 19, 1969 — Agriculture Minister H.A. (Bud) Olson today announced details of the 1969-70 price support program for wool.

The program for the twelve-month period ending next March 31 again provides a support price of 60 cents per pound for wool of eligible grades.

A wool producer, to be eligible for a deficiency payment under the 1969-70 program, must market at least 100 pounds of wool of eligible grades through a registered wool warehouse during the year.

A deficiency payment of 29.4 cents per pound was paid to eligible wool growers for the year 1968-69.

NEWS

CANADA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

INFORMATION DIVISION
OTTAWA

T-84
<u>For Immediate Release</u>
N, ASL

Subject: SUGAR BEET DEFICIENCY PAYMENT

OTTAWA, December 4, 1969 -- Agriculture Minister H.A. (Bud) Olson today announced a deficiency payment of $3.23 per standard ton of sugar beets produced by growers in the 1968 crop year.

Producers in Manitoba and Alberta have received part of this amount by way of a $2.50 per ton interim payment made to them earlier this year by the Agricultural Stabilization Board. The advance payment was made following requests from the provincial sugar beet associations.

The support price for sugar beets in 1968 was $15.98 per standard ton, the amount of beets required to produce 250 pounds of sugar. The same support level applies to the 1969 crop.

Cheques will go out to growers in Manitoba, Alberta and Quebec -- Canada's sugar beet producing provinces -- after final information is obtained from sugar beet associations and the sugar plants. It is expected that most cheques will be processed before the end of the month.

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NEWS

CANADA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
INFORMATION DIVISION
OTTAWA

U-33

For Immediate Release
N, ASL

Subject: SUGAR BEET SUPPORT PROGRAM

OTTAWA, May 11, 1970 -- Agriculture Minister H.A. (Bud) Olson today announced that the 1970 sugar beet crop will continue to be supported through deficiency payments at a national average level of $15.98 per standard ton (250 pounds of sugar), delivered to the processing plant.

In making the announcement Mr. Olson pointed out that this program provides a measure of stability to Canadian sugar beet growers that would otherwise be faced with widely fluctuating returns because of variations in world sugar prices.

"I am pleased," Mr. Olson said "that the increase in stability brought about by the world sugar agreement has reduced sharply payments necessary under this program."

Mr. Olson noted that because of increased efficiency within the industry, producers are able to meet increasing costs without any increase in the level of protection provided under this program.

Sugar beets are grown on about 80,000 acres in Alberta, Manitoba and Quebec and the annual production amounts to about 250 million pounds.

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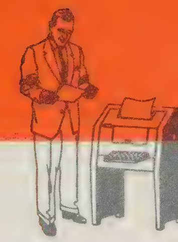
NEWS

ANADA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

INFORMATION DIVISION
OTTAWA



U-68
For Immediate Release
N

Subject: EGG SUPPORT PROGRAM

OTTAWA, November 6, 1970 -- The national average price to producers for Grade A Large eggs amounted to 39.83 cents per dozen for the 1969-70 support year ended September 30, the Agricultural Stabilization Board announced today.

There will be no deficiency payment to producers under the 1969-70 program which provided a floor price of 80 per cent of the base price (ten-year average) under the mandatory provisions of the Agricultural Stabilization Act. The previous ten-year average on a national weighted basis was 35.7 cents per dozen for Grade A Large eggs.

Despite frequent predictions of the adverse ramifications of continued increases in chick placements during 1970, egg marketings in 1971 are now expected to exceed year earlier levels by about 5 to 10 per cent. Although there have been reasonably heavy marketings of fowl no substantial change in egg prices is likely until the net total of laying stock is reduced. Any continuation of exports of shell eggs to the United States into 1971 will likely be at reasonably low price levels as they are also predicting weaker egg markets during that period.

NEWS

ANADA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
INFORMATION DIVISION
OTTAWA

U-75

For Immediate Release
N-ASL

Subject: SUGAR BEET DEFICIENCY PAYMENT

OTTAWA, December 7, 1970 -- Agriculture Minister H.A. (Bud) Olson today announced a deficiency payment of $2.29 per standard ton of sugar beets produced by growers in the 1969 crop year.

Producers in Manitoba and Alberta have received part of this amount by way of a $1.50 per ton interim payment made to them earlier this year by the Agricultural Stabilization Board. The advance payment was made following requests from the provincial sugar beet associations.

The support price for sugar beets in 1969 was $15.98 per standard ton, the amount of beets required to produce 250 pounds of sugar. The same support level applies to the 1970 crop.

Cheques will go out to growers in Manitoba, Alberta and Quebec -- Canada's sugar beet producing provinces -- after final information is obtained from sugar beet associations and the sugar plants. It is expected that most cheques will be processed before the end of the month.

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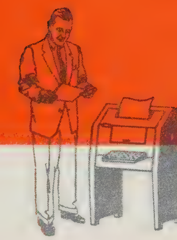
NEWS

ANADA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
INFORMATION DIVISION
OTTAWA



V-7
For Immediate Release
B.C., N1, N2, NG

Subject: APPLE AID

OTTAWA, February 12, 1971 -- The federal government will offer assistance to the British Columbia apple industry, which was hard hit by storage losses on the 1969 crop, Agriculture Minister H.A. (Bud) Olson announced today.

British Columbia tree fruit growers have suffered losses because of unusual and extensive storage breakdown of apples harvested in 1969. These apples could not be sold on the fresh market, but were used to make apple concentrate.

"During a meeting today, the Agricultural Products Board was authorized to provide assistance to British Columbia tree fruit growers in the form of payments that will permit the apple concentrate to be priced competitively on the Canadian market," Mr. Olson said.

"The assistance will provide improved returns to producers," he said.

The assistance program will cost an estimated $400,000.

Preliminary research results from trials conducted by the CDA Research Branch indicate that the possible future incidence of this type of storage breakdown might be controlled by certain cultural practices.

NEWS

CANADA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
INFORMATION DIVISION
OTTAWA

V-38

For Immediate Release
N, ASL

Subject: SUGAR BEET SUPPORT PROGRAM

OTTAWA, June 4, 1971 -- Agriculture Minister H.A. (Bud) Olson today announced the federal government's price stabilization program for the 1971 sugar beet crop.

Prices will be supported, through deficiency payments, at the same level as last year -- $15.98 per standard ton of beets delivered to the processing plant. A standard ton is one yielding 250 pounds of refined sugar.

About 2,500 farmers in Alberta, Manitoba and Quebec are currently involved with sugar beet production. All production is carried out under contract with refineries.

Sugar beet acreage in 1970 was down by about 13 per cent from the year-earlier total of 79,227 but this year's acreage is expected to be up again to near the 1969 figure.

Sugar beet production dipped to 910,000 tons in 1970 from the year-earlier level of 1,078,000 tons. Most of the decline occurred in Manitoba where production fell by about 127,000 tons for a 1970 output of 216,142 tons. Production in Alberta was off by about 53,000 tons for a total of 523,500 tons. In Quebec, production amounted to 170,000 tons, up by 11,559 from the previous year.

NEWS

ANADA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

INFORMATION DIVISION
OTTAWA

V-39
For Immediate Release
N, ASL

Subject: EGG PURCHASE PROGRAM

OTTAWA, June 8, 1971 -- Agriculture Minister H.A. (Bud) Olson today announced that a purchase program to stabilize egg prices will be undertaken by the federal Agricultural Products Board.

The Board will buy eggs by means of weekly tenders and the purchased eggs will be processed into products such as melange and powder.

The egg products are expected to make up part of Canada's contribution to the World Food Program. The WFP is an organized effort by many countries to make food available quickly to meet emergencies, to raise nutritional levels of children, and to use food as a capital asset in assisting economic development.

Increased egg supplies so far this year coupled with disruptive marketing practices, have resulted in very low prices to producers, with the price problem being focused in certain areas.

Wide fluctuations in supplies and prices from year to year do not serve the interests of either producer or consumer, Mr. Olson pointed out. To help achieve stability, he urged producers to carefully assess available markets and to place and maintain flocks on this basis.

The purchase program to be undertaken by the Agricultural Products Board is designed to relieve the problem of egg surpluses and low producer prices. But Mr. Olson pointed out that continuance of the program beyond a period of six to eight weeks is dependent on the industry and all provincial governments and agencies moving to bring production better into line with available markets.

Details outlining the purchase program are being sent to all provincial marketing boards and normal handlers of shell eggs.

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NEWS

CANADA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

INFORMATION DIVISION
OTTAWA

V-53

For Immediate Release
N, ASL

Subject: HOG GRADING STATEMENTS

OTTAWA, September 29, 1971 -- The Agricultural Stabilization Board of the Canada Department of Agriculture recommends to all hog producers that they retain their copies of the official grading statements.

In the event that a deficiency payment on hogs is made for 1971, the individual payments would be based on producers grading statements as proof of sale and grade.

It is pointed out that each statement contains bold print suggesting that it is retained in case of the Deficiency Payment Program coming into effect.

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NEWS

ANADA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
INFORMATION DIVISION
OTTAWA

V-54
For Immediate Release
N, ASL

Subject: ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR UNPROCESSED AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS

OTTAWA, October 1 , 1971 -- Agriculture Minister H.A. (Bud) Olson today announced approval of the plans to assist distributors and producers of unprocessed agricultural products affected by surtax.

Mr. Olson pointed out that Bill C-262, the Employment Support Act designed to aid Canadian processors and, indirectly, Canadian suppliers of raw materials to processors, does not apply to exporters of unprocessed products who are affected by the surtax. Grading, washing and packaging of raw products are not defined as processing for the purposes of this bill.

It is important that employment be maintained in the distributing sector of the Canadian agricultural industry as well as in the processing sector, and that farm prices be maintained at a level consistent with that which could have been expected in the absence of the surtax.

Such action can be taken under the authority of the Agricultural Stabilization Act. This act provides for payments to producers and to others for the benefit of producers.

Programs will be developed on a commodity basis by the Agricultural Stabilization Board. The general criteria to qualify for assistance under these programs will include employment in the distributing industry, return to producers relative to a base period, volume of exports to the U.S. in the base period, and impact of the surtax.

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Although plans are well advanced for some commodities, Mr. Olson has asked that producers, and agricultural distributor groups who have not already done so, make application to the Agricultural Stabilization Board outlining their problems in the current situation.

The Board will require information about price before and after August 15, 1971. In the case of distributors, information must be supplied outlining volume of exports to the U.S. in any 12 month period ending in 1970, distribution to all markets in the same period, distribution patterns for 1969 and 1970, and the anticipated pattern in 1971.

Information about prices paid and to be paid during the same periods will also be necessary.

"Where possible," Mr. Olson said, "assistance to producers will be provided through the distribution system. Where this is not possible, general stabilization programs of an appropriate type will still be available under the Agricultural Stabilization Board to protect producers."

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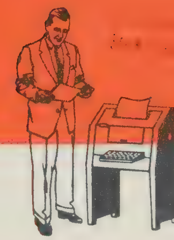
NEWS



CANADA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

INFORMATION DIVISION
OTTAWA

V-55
For Immediate Release
N, ASL

Subject: TURKEY PURCHASE PROGRAM

OTTAWA, October 13, 1971 -- Agriculture Minister H.A. (Bud) Olson announced Tuesday in the House of Commons that the Agricultural Products Board had been authorized to purchase turkey. The turkey meat will be canned and will go to the World Food Program.

This purchase action is the first taken under the recently announced program designed to assist producers of agricultural products adversely affected by the United States surtax.

"An imbalance between supply and demand in the turkey industry in Canada has existed this year," Mr. Olson said.

This imbalance is further distorted by the U.S. surtax. The surtax amounts to between 3 and 4 cents per pound for eviscerated turkeys.

Mr. Olson expressed hope that the industry will move to avoid a repetition of an over-supply situation.

"All provincial turkey marketing boards have agreed to a 10 per cent cutback in their planned 1972 production," Mr. Olson said.

"I anticipate the joint effect of the two actions will be a significant improvement in the turkey market," he said.

Details of the purchase program will be issued soon by the Agricultural Products Board.

NEWS

ANADA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
INFORMATION DIVISION
OTTAWA

V-61
For Immediate Release
N, ASL

Subject: FOWL SLAUGHTER PROGRAM

OTTAWA, October 29, 1971 -- Agriculture Minister H.A. (Bud) Olson today announced details of a fowl slaughter program to stabilize egg supplies.

The program, to be carried out over an eight-week period beginning November 1, will offer financial inducement to egg producers to reduce the size of their laying flocks.

"The move is being undertaken to stabilize egg supplies and prevent a buildup in egg stocks as a result of the curtailment of exports to the United States," Mr. Olson said.

He noted that a problem in surplus egg supplies had been alleviated earlier this year when the federal Agricultural Products Board purchased egg stocks for powdering and distribution to the World Food Program.

Payments to producers under the fowl slaughter program will be made from the Agricultural Stabilization Board's working fund. These payments would supplement prices received by producers in disposing of some of their hens through poultry processing plants.

The program's target is an additional reduction of 320,000 hens in the size of the national laying flock.

Currently, the number of hens removed from laying flocks and marketed through processing plants amounts to 2,320,000 in an average eight-week period. This total has been set as the base for payments in the program.

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Payments to producers would amount to a total of $160,000 if the slaughter volume is increased by the maximum of 320,000 birds from the base level of 2,320,000.

The amount producers receive per bird will depend on the total slaughter in the eight weeks. There will be a sliding scale of payment, with amounts increasing proportionately to the increase in slaughterings.

For example, if the eight-week total exceeds the base level by the maximum of 320,000 hens, the payment on the 2,640,000 birds will amount to 6.4 cents per bird. But if the total amounts to 200,000 more than the base figure, the payment on the 2,520,000 hens will amount to about four cents per bird.

There will be no payment if slaughterings amount to 2,320,000 or less.

Egg producers must dispose of their hens by marketing them through registered poultry processing plants, Mr. Olson said.

He urged processors to cooperate in meeting a requirement that producers, to be eligible for the assistance payment, must have received at least the same prices from processors during the program as they were getting prior to its start.

Producers should retain all receipts for fowl delivered to processors for slaughter from November 1 to December 24 to support their claims.

Full details of the program, including method of claiming, will be sent to the industry at a later date.

- 30 -

NEWS

ANADA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

INFORMATION DIVISION
OTTAWA

V-65
For Immediate Release
N, ASL

Subject: POTATO SUPPORT PROGRAM

OTTAWA, November 10, 1971 -- The federal government today announced a program to buy potatoes from Canadian farmers to stabilize domestic market prices.

The announcement was made by The Hon. Jean-Eudes Dubé, Minister of Veterans Affairs, in the absence of Agriculture Minister H.A. (Bud) Olson who is attending a Food and Agriculture Organization Conference in Rome.

The Agricultural Stabilization Board will offer to buy bagged Canada No. 1 potatoes for $1.50 a hundredweight, Mr. Dubé said.

There will be a maximum of 1,333 hundredweights per farmer.

Farmers will be able to sell potatoes to the Board on contract, keep them on the farm, and collect a 75-cent-per-hundredweight advance immediately. The Board will call for delivery date.

The balance of payment will be made at the end of the program.

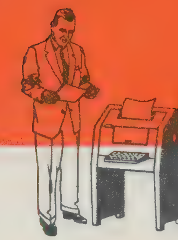
"We have introduced the purchase program to offset the adverse effects of the United States 10 per cent surcharge on Canadian exports," Mr. Dubé said.

"Farmers will receive an immediate cash payment which will tide them over their immediate cash shortage problem and thus remove the tendency to sell at sacrifice prices," Mr. Dubé said.

"An end to distress sales and the removal of supplies from the market should improve prices, particularly in New Brunswick, where prices have been the lowest," he added.

"Full details of the program will be announced as soon as they are worked out by the Agricultural Stabilization Board," Mr. Dubé said.

NEWS



ANADA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

INFORMATION DIVISION
OTTAWA

V-67
For Immediate Release
N, ASL

Subject: BLUEBERRY AND APPLE SUPPORT PROGRAMS

OTTAWA, November 18, 1971 -- Apple and blueberry producers will receive government assistance through the Agricultural Stabilization Board, Agriculture Minister H.A. (Bud) Olson announced today.

Blueberry producers will receive payment of 1½ cents a pound for the crop they sold to distributors and processors this year.

The payment will have no effect on consumer prices, but will compensate producers who sold their crop at lower-than-normal prices.

The Agricultural Stabilization Board will be collecting data on deliveries this year and payments will be made to producers when the information has been collected.

The payment will be paid to producers who furnish proof of sales to distributors and processors.

Support to apple producers selling to the fresh market will come in the form of a grant for apple promotion.

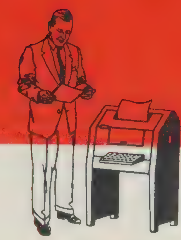
The grant will be paid for the benefit of producers through the Canadian Horticultural Council to promote domestic apple consumption.

Producers now pay a levy for apple promotion purposes. This grant will be used to reduce their payments this year and will therefore improve producers' returns.

Details of both assistance programs will be announced as soon as they are finalized by the Board, Mr. Olson said.

- 30 -

NEWS



CANADA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
INFORMATION DIVISION
OTTAWA

V-73
For Immediate Release
N, ASL

Subject: POTATO SUPPORT PROGRAM DETAILS

OTTAWA, December 2, 1971 -- The Agricultural Stabilization Board today released details of the recently-announced potato support program.

The program is designed to buy potatoes from Canadian farmers to stabilize domestic market prices.

The Board offers to buy Canada No. 1 grade potatoes for $1.50 per hundredweight.

The offer is for a minimum of 200 hundredweights and a maximum of 1,333 hundredweights per farmer.

The offer is subject to determination by the Director of the Canada Agriculture Fruit and Vegetable Division that the farmer has the stated quantity of Canada No. 1 potatoes or a larger quantity of ungraded potatoes from which the stated quantity of No. 1 grade could be obtained.

Farmers will be able to collect a 75-cent-per-hundredweight advance and will be required to hold the potatoes in suitable storage throughout the 1971 marketing season or until such time as the Board requests delivery.

The Board will call for a delivery date sometime during the marketing season for the 1971 crop. It may direct that the potatoes be delivered in bags of 50, 75 or 100 pounds, in which case the bags will be supplied to the farmer.

Or, the Board may direct that the potatoes be delivered on a bulk, field-run basis. In this case, the payment to the farmer will be based on the percentage of Canada No. 1 potatoes in the shipment.

Potatoes not meeting this grade standard will also become the property of the Board, since the farmer will be considered to have been compensated by not having been required by the Board to grade and bag the potatoes.

Potatoes delivered in bulk must be at least 50 per cent Canada No. 1 grade.

The Board will allow monthly discounts to compensate for expected normal weight loss in orage.

Closing date for applications for the program is January 31, 1972.

Full details and application forms may be obtained from Canada Agriculture Fruit and etable Division offices across Canada.

NEWS

CANADA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
INFORMATION DIVISION
OTTAWA

V-77
For Immediate Release
N, ASL

Subject: SUGAR BEET DEFICIENCY PAYMENT

OTTAWA, December 10, 1971 — Agriculture Minister H.A. (Bud) Olson announced today that a deficiency payment of 86 cents per standard ton will be paid on the 1970 sugar beet crop.

Payments to growers in Manitoba, Alberta and Quebec -- Canada's sugar beet growing provinces -- will amount to about $746,000.

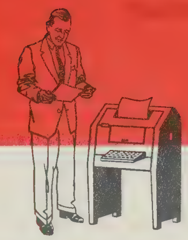
The support price for the 1970 sugar beet crop was $15.98 per standard ton (250 pounds of sugar).

The deficiency payment rate is lower this year as a result of the improvement that took place in the world price of sugar last year and which was reflected in generally better prices received by Canadian sugar beet growers.

Because of strengthening prices, there was no interim payment made on the 1970 crop.

Deficiency payment cheques will be issued following receipt of final information from sugar beet associations and the sugar plants. It is expected that most cheques will be processed before the end of the month.

NEWS



NADA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

INFORMATION DIVISION
OTTAWA

W-5
For Immediate Release
N, ASL

Subject: POTATO SUPPORT PROGRAM

OTTAWA, January 11, 1972 -- The Agricultural Stabilization Board today clarified its intention with respect to the disposition of potatoes acquired under the recently-announced Potato Support Program.

The response to the program, which is designed to buy potatoes from Canadian farmers to stabilize domestic market prices, has been limited. The Board has been informed that farmers have been holding back because they have been uncertain when and how the Board will dispose of the potatoes purchased under the program and were concerned that they might be required to hold the potatoes past normal storage time.

The Board has therefore confirmed that, as soon as sufficient potatoes have been offered under the program, it will make arrangements for diversion to starch manufacture, livestock feeding, export, or other alternate uses. Such action has not been taken up to now since the volume offered to the Board was too limited to permit the Board to enter into contracts or arrangements for alternate use.

The Board would welcome proposals from those with alternate use interests.

While the Board wishes to take delivery of the potatoes and divert them to alternate use at the earliest possible date, the volume of potatoes offered by January 31 may necessitate holding them in producers' storages until or beyond April 15.

The Board will assume responsibility for deterioration of potatoes still in storage and awaiting delivery instructions after April 15. However, they must be segregated by the producer from other stocks being held in the same storage and clearly identifiable as stocks committed to the Board.

The Board emphasizes that potatoes purchased under the program will not be placed on the domestic market to the detriment of Canadian producers.

Full details about the program, and application forms, may be obtained from Canada Agriculture Fruit and Vegetable Division offices across Canada.

Closing date for applications for the program is January 31.

NEWS

ANADA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
INFORMATION DIVISION
OTTAWA

W-10
For Immediate Release
N, ASL

Subject: POTATO CHEQUES MAILED

OTTAWA, January 27, 1972 -- The first cheques for potato farmers were being processed today in Ottawa, Agriculture Minister H.A. (Bud) Olson announced.

The cheques are the initial payment under the Agricultural Stabilization Board's offer to purchase potatoes for $1.50 a hundredweight.

The purchase program was introduced to shore up sagging prices.

"Prices have already started to recover in parts of the Maritimes, particularly New Brunswick where prices were the lowest when the program was announced," Mr. Olson said.

"Prices could improve considerably if farmers offered the maximum number of potatoes to the Stabilization Board.

"Applications were lagging; however, there has been increased farmer interest recently and in this connection I appreciate the arrangements made by Eymard Corbin, Member of Parliament for Madawaska-Victoria, and others who helped inform a wide range of growers, about details of the program," Mr. Olson said.

Under the program, the Board is offering to purchase up to 1,333 hundredweight per farmer for $1.50 per hundredweight, Canada No. 1 grade in bags.

Farmers receive half the purchase price as soon as their application form is processed, and the other half will be forwarded at the end of the program.

Agreement has been reached with Valley Co-operative Starch Plant, Grand Falls, N.B. and arrangements are being made to take potatoes purchased by the Board and divert them into starch. Deliveries to the plant will begin by February 1.

"We are also negotiating with several other outlets, including food aid programs.

"We are pleased that prices are recovering, but we believe they would go even higher if more potatoes were committed to the Board.

"It is really up to farmers now to make the program more successful by offering more potatoes to the Board," Mr. Olson said.

Application forms are available at district Fruit and Vegetable Division offices of the Canada Department of Agriculture.

The deadline for applications is January 31.

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NEWS

CANADA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
INFORMATION DIVISION
OTTAWA

W-15

For Immediate Release
N, ASL

Subject: POTATO PURCHASE PROGRAM

OTTAWA, January 28, 1972 -- Agriculture Minister H.A. (Bud) Olson today announced that the Canadian government will buy an estimated 4,000,000 pounds of dehydrated potatoes and give them to the World Food Program.

"The donation includes transportation costs, and amounts to a $1,000,000 supplementary contribution to the World Food Program from Canada for 1971 and 1972, over and above our pledge of $30,000,000," Mr. Olson said.

"The World Food Program has advised us that they could make use of these potatoes at this time," Mr. Olson said.

The Agricultural Products Board will issue details of the purchase program in the near future.

Canada is the second-largest contributor to the Program.

The objective of the Program is to provide food aid to countries in need. The program is sponsored jointly by the United Nations and the Food and Agriculture Organization.

"We expect this program will be of immediate benefit to Canadian potato producers," Mr. Olson added.

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NEWS

ANADA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
INFORMATION DIVISION
OTTAWA

W-19
For Immediate Release
N, ASL

Subject: HOG DEFICIENCY PAYMENT

OTTAWA, February 3, 1972 -- The federal government will pay hog producers up to $1,000 per producer to offset low prices in 1971, Agriculture Minister H.A. (Bud) Olson announced today.

The payment will be $5 per hog for all hogs indexing 100 or higher, up to a maximum of 200 hogs per farmer.

"It is estimated that under this formula, more than 90 per cent of the hog producers in Canada will receive $5 per hog for every hog they marketed that had a carcass quality of 100 or higher," Mr. Olson said.

Prices were driven down in North America when production soared to record-breaking levels. Production increased by 8,800,000 hogs last year, 83 per cent of the increase coming from United States production and 17 per cent from Canada.

Beginning late last year, production started to return to more normal levels, and economists forecast that production will be down by seven per cent in the United States and by six per cent in Canada by mid-year.

Prices have been strengthening across North America in response to the return to lower production levels.

The deficiency payment will be made to farmers by the Agricultural Stabilization Board.

...2

The Board supports hog prices at 80 per cent of the 10-year average.

The national weighted price in 1971 was $23.67 per hundredweight; the support price (80 per cent of the 10-year average) is $24.14 per hundredweight. That leaves a deficiency of 47 cents per hundredweight to be paid by the Agricultural Stabilization Board.

"The payment of $5 per hog indexing 100 or more means hog farmers will receive more money from the federal government than they would under strict application of the formula," Mr. Olson said.

To receive payment, hog farmers should obtain an application form from their packing plant, at their local assembly yards or through the district offices of the Livestock Division, Canada Department of Agriculture.

Application forms have been mailed to all provincial marketing boards and packing plants for distribution to producers.

Copies are also available from the Agricultural Stabilization Board, Canada Department of Agriculture, Ottawa.

Farmers must submit original hog carcass grading certificates with their application forms. The certificates list the number of hogs marketed and their quality index.

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NEWS

ANADA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
INFORMATION DIVISION
OTTAWA

W-52
For Immediate Release
N, ASL

Subject: HOG DEFICIENCY PAYMENT CHEQUES

OTTAWA, March 28, 1972 -- Agriculture Minister H.A. (Bud) Olson today announced that the first hog deficiency payment cheques will go out this week.

Some 10,000 producers will receive payment in the first issue of cheques.

The $5 per hog deficiency payment applies to hogs having a carcass quality index of 100 or higher, and up to a maximum of 200 eligible hogs marketed by a producer in 1971.

To streamline operations, cheques will be issued at intervals when a sufficient number of claims have been processed.

Delays in settlement of claims can be avoided by producers if they complete their claim forms carefully and submit original hog carcass grading certificates with their claims, Mr. Olson pointed out.

Eligible producers who have not yet submitted a claim are urged to do so as soon as possible.

NEWS

ANADA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
INFORMATION DIVISION
OTTAWA

W-60
For Immediate Release
N, ASL

Subject: HOG DEFICIENCY PAYMENT

OTTAWA, April 25, 1972 — Agriculture Minister H.A. (Bud) Olson today expressed concern that some commercial firms are trying to persuade hog producers to give them a share of the hog deficiency payments.

"I am particularly concerned about arrangements whereby some feed companies with integrated operations have been endeavoring to obtain commitments from farmers for a share of the hog deficiency payment," Mr. Olson said.

While the situation varies, basically these companies are reported to have been exercising pressure to induce farmers to sign an agreement under which a portion of the subsidy payment would be payable by the farmer to the company.

It is also reported that in some cases companies have used the threat of non-release of grading certificates to induce farmers to sign the sharing agreements.

"While it would not be possible or perhaps desirable to in any way check the freedom of farmers to use subsidy money as they see fit, the purpose of the deficiency payment is to recompense farmers for the extremely low prices they received for hogs during the 1971 marketing year, and not to improve the position of commercial firms who had contractual arrangements with actual producers," Mr. Olson said.

He noted that, since the Agricultural Stabilization Board is prepared to process claims based on other than the original grading certificates from hog producers who were otherwise eligible, there should be no need for farmers to sign agreements in order to obtain the original certificates.

"While it may not be possible for the Agricultural Stabilization Board to take legal action against firms or companies that engage in this practice, every effort will be made to ensure that farmers need not enter into subsidy-sharing agreements," Mr. Olson said.

NEWS

CANADA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

INFORMATION DIVISION
OTTAWA

W-66
For Immediate Release
Maritimes, N1,N2,NG ASL

Subject: POTATO STARCH PROGRAM

OTTAWA, May 11, 1972 -- Agriculture Minister H.A. (Bud) Olson today announced that the Agricultural Stabilization Board will extend its program to buy potatoes in New Brunswick to divert into starch production.

The diversion program may be limited by the starch plants' ability to handle potatoes.

The same eligibility rules that applied to the potato support program this past winter will apply now.

Eligible producers who have not sold the limit of 1,333 hundredweights to the Board will now be able to sell up to that limit under this extension.

To ensure consideration, applicants should contact offices of the Canada Department of Agriculture's Fruit and Vegetable Division in either Florenceville or Grand Falls, New Brunswick, before 5 p.m., May 19. They will require evidence of eligibility.

Payment will be $1.50 per hundredweight, based on the actual percentage of Canada No. 1 grade at the time of delivery to the starch factory.

NEWS

CANADA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
INFORMATION DIVISION
OTTAWA

W-75
For Immediate Release
N, ASL

Subject: HOG DEFICIENCY PAYMENT

OTTAWA, May 31, 1972 -- Agriculture Minister H.A. (Bud) Olson announced today that producers who sold their hogs at auctions will be eligible for the federal deficiency payment of $5 per hog.

The payment applies to 1971 hog marketings.

The Minister noted that producers who sold their hogs live at auctions did not receive the grading certificates which are required to document claims from producers who marketed their hogs through packing plants.

The Agricultural Stabilization Board will pay the deficiency payment on hogs sold through auctions provided two conditions are met, Mr. Olson said.

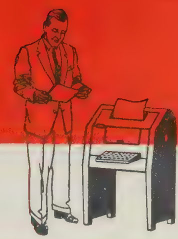
These are that the hogs had been moved directly from the auction to a processing plant and slaughtered; and that all claims include records that can be audited against the records of the auction market and those of the processing plant.

The records submitted with the claim form must provide the producer's name and address, date of sale, number of hogs, live weight, tattoo numbers, price received and the purchaser's name.

The deficiency payment of $5 per hog will be paid to a producer for 50 per cent of his hogs that fall within the market hog weight range.

Claims will be subject to auditing at auction barns, packing plants and at the Agricultural Stabilization Board's data processing center.

NEWS



ANADA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

INFORMATION DIVISION
OTTAWA

W-79
For Immediate Release
N, ASL

Subject: EGG PRODUCER AID PROGRAM

OTTAWA, June 8, 1972 -- Agriculture Minister H.A. (Bud) Olson today announced a program to remove excess hens from the Canadian laying flock in order to reduce the surplus of eggs that is now disrupting marketing channels.

Egg producers normally market about 250,000 laying hens a week.

Under this program, the federal government will make a payment to producers to increase fowl marketings by one million birds within an eight-week period.

The assistance rate will be higher if the target of one million is reached before eight weeks.

"We have built in a sliding scale to encourage maximum removal of surplus birds within the shortest possible time," Mr. Olson said.

Under this formula, if the target is reached within six weeks, farmers will receive approximately 90 cents per bird marketed. If the target takes eight weeks to reach, the payment would be about 75 cents per bird.

If the program falls short of the one-million-bird target, the assistance will be less. For example, if only 500,000 extra birds are slaughtered during the eight-week period, the subsidy will be about 45 cents a bird.

The program will be effective from June 5.

For several months, Mr. Olson has been promising the industry financial assistance would be offered when all the provinces indicate agreement to move forward with a program that would better equate supply with demand and which would involve no interference in movement of product between provinces.

An essential part of the program will be that the provinces will indicate to individual producers what flock adjustments they need to make, or provide a basis on which individual producers can estimate necessary flock adjustments.

Mr. Olson stated that the program was designed to stimulate rapid adjustment in fowl numbers thus providing indirect and immediate benefits through price increases to those producers and areas that do not need to adjust fowl holdings while at the same time providing direct assistance to those that need to make adjustments.

He said that after consultation with producer representatives from the provinces there was wide agreement that such a program coupled with commitments in respect of supply control by the provinces will provide immediate and sustained strength to the egg market in Canada.

He stressed that participation and cooperation by all concerned is important for the success of the program if it is to correct the supply-demand imbalance that has plagued the industry for some time. He noted that producer organizations across Canada have set a target date of November 1 for the establishment of a national egg marketing agency and are working diligently towards that end.

To receive assistance under the federal government's subsidy program, producers will require proof of sale to a registered poultry processing plant or a recognized certificate of disposal.

Full details of the program, including the method of claiming, will be sent to the industry immediately. In the meantime, producers should retain all receipts showing disposition of fowl removed.

CANADA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE / MINISTÈRE DE L'AGRICULTURE DU CANADA

PRODUCTION AND MARKETING BRANCH / DIRECTION DE LA PRODUCTION ET DES MARCHÉS

YOUR FILE NO.
VOTRE RÉF. N°

OUR FILE NO.
NOTRE RÉF. N° 897.25

Ottawa, K1A 0C5,
June 13th, 1972.

MEMORANDUM TO - Federal and Provincial Officers

Re: Egg Producer Aid Program

With respect to the above noted program (copy of press release attached) we have outlined below various means by which such fowl may be liquidated. When the program is completed and the basis of settlement is established producers should submit their claims on the form that will be provided for the purpose. Such claims will be required to be substantiated with information as follows:

1. When sold direct to processing plant or rendering plant:

   (a) the full name and address of the producer;
   (b) the total number of fowl slaughtered - note only fowl eligible;
   (c) name and address of the processing plant; and
   (d) date of slaughter.

   Producers should retain copies of the slaughter statements received from the processor in order to support their claim for assistance on the conclusion of the slaughter program.

2. When sold through huckster, trucker or some other first receiver.

   In the case of producers selling live fowl directly to hucksters or drovers who, in turn, re-sell to the processing plant, the producer should request a bill of lading or some such similar statement from the drover at the time of pick-up and such document to contain the following information:

   (a) the full name and address of the drover or other purchaser;
   (b) the full name and address of the fowl producer;
   (c) the date of sale;
   (d) the name and address of the processing plant, if applicable;

(e) the total number of head of fowl;
(f) signature of huckster, drover or receiver;
(g) in case of sale of live birds to drovers, hucksters or others, proof of slaughter must accompany any application for assistance.

3. If fowl is intended to be slaughtered on the farm and buried or otherwise disposed of other than by sale or by any means mentioned above, the producer must obtain prior approval for such slaughter from the District Supervisor of the Poultry Division, Canada Department of Agriculture, in the province concerned and, in addition, must have such slaughter witnessed by one of the following:

(a) a veterinarian or poultry officer of the Canada Department of Agriculture; or
(b) a veterinarian, district agriculturalist or poultry officer of the Provincial Department of Agriculture.

4. With respect to "on the farm" slaughter, this method of disposal must be covered by a certificate signed by a federal or provincial officer. A sample copy of the certification form is enclosed. Additional copies are being made available through the offices of the District Supervisors, Poultry Division, Canada Department of Agriculture, in all the provinces.

A. D. Davey,
for Director, Poultry Division.

ADD:PS
Encl.

CERTIFICATE OF SLAUGHTER OF FOWL

Date ____________________

This is to certify that the following number of fowl were slaughtered in my presence:

____

____

Owner's Full Name ____

Owner's Address ____

Legal Description of Farm Location _____________________________________

____

Signature of Witness ____________________________

Title ____________________________

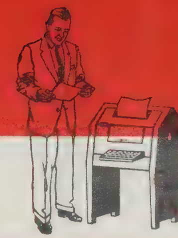
Location ____________________________

For assurance of acceptability of this document witnesses should be one of the following: Federal Department of Agriculture Veterinarians or Poultry Division Officers; or Provincial Department of Agriculture Veterinarians, District Agriculturalists or Poultry Officers.

NOTE: One copy of this document should be forwarded to the Agricultural Stabilization Board, Room 939, Sir John Carling Building, Ottawa, and the second copy left with the producer to be forwarded with his application for payment WHEN THE PROGRAM IS COMPLETED AND BASIS OF PAYMENT IS ESTABLISHED.

NEWS

ANADA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
INFORMATION DIVISION
OTTAWA



W-77
For Immediate Release
N, ASL

Subject: SUGAR BEET SUPPORT PROGRAM

OTTAWA, June 10, 1972 — Agriculture Minister H.A. (Bud) Olson today announced that prices for the 1972 sugar beet crop would be supported at a level of $15.98 per standard ton of beets delivered to the processing plant.

A standard ton of beets is one yielding 250 pounds of refined sugar.

Although world sugar prices have been strong during the past few months, the support program remains essential for the protection of Canadian sugar beet growers should the world price picture deteriorate, Mr. Olson said.

About 2,300 farmers in Alberta, Manitoba and Quebec are involved with sugar beet production under contract with refineries.

Sugar beet acreage and production this year are expected to be about the same as last year.

In 1971, sugar beets were grown on 81,050 acres — 42,100 in Alberta, 30,850 in Manitoba and 8,100 in Quebec.

Production amounted to 1,200,000 tons of beets which in turn yielded 302,000,000 pounds of sugar.

Support under the sugar beet stabilization program is provided through deficiency payments.

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NEWS

CANADA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

INFORMATION DIVISION
OTTAWA

W-92
For Immediate Release
N, ASL

Subject: TERMINATION OF EGG PRODUCER AID PROGRAM

OTTAWA, June 27, 1972 — Agriculture Minister H.A. (Bud) Olson today announced that the program to remove excess hens from Canadian laying flocks is being terminated today.

Mr. Olson expressed satisfaction at the enthusiastic response of producers in achieving so quickly the goals of the program that he announced on June 8.

This program was intended to have the effect of stabilizing producer prices in the shortest time possible by removing about an extra one million hens from the Canadian laying flock.

It is estimated that this strengthening in producer prices has increased producer returns by approximately $300,000 for eggs marketed in the second week of the "Egg Producer Aid Program".

Mr. Olson especially wished to recognize the actions of the various provincial governments in setting up the control mechanism that makes it possible for a continuing effect of this program.

He stated that the federal government had completed its part of the agreement and that he was confident that provincial agencies would carry out their part, thus ensuring continuing price stability.

Details with respect to methods of submitting claims will be made public shortly.

Canada

Dept. of Agriculture Canada

Information div.

news

AGRICULTURE CANADA
OTTAWA K1A OC7
994-9551

Subject: GRAINS AND OILSEEDS SITUATION AND OUTLOOK

OTTAWA, July 19, 1974 -- The following comments on the Canadian grains and oilseeds situation and outlook were released today by J.S. Carmichael and B.W. Paddock, economists with Agriculture Canada's Marketing and Trade Division:

On July 11, 1974, Statistics Canada published its first estimates of acreages of grains and oilseeds planted in the Prairie Provinces in 1974. The estimates show that farmers made changes since reporting their planting intentions last March and also changes from last year's plantings. An increase in summer-fallow acreage to 26.4 million acres, four per cent more than last year is probably a reflection of the weather conditions at planting time.

Planting was later than usual in the Prairie Provinces because of a late snow-melting which was followed by prolonged rains. Following planting, hot, dry, windy weather made the topsoil very dry in parts of the southern prairies, and uneven germination of some crops was reported. More recent reports indicate some improvement in conditions in most areas.

It is much too early to make estimates of the size of the prairie grains and oilseed crops. A considerable part of the crop will be more susceptible than usual to damage by dry weather during the growing season, frost before maturity, and poor harvest weather.

Wheat

Wheat planting in the prairie regions is estimated at 23.3 million acres, down by four per cent from the 24.2 million acres of last year and about 11 per cent below the intended area of 26.1 million acres.

... 2

Included in the 23.3 million acres are 3.2 million acres of durum which is 25 per cent more than last year. Other spring wheat acreage is lower by seven per cent, at 20.1 million acres compared with 21.65 million acres last year. All of the three provinces are estimated to have lower total wheat acreages than last year, with Alberta down eight per cent, Manitoba three per cent, and Saskatchewan two per cent. The largest percentage change in durum acreage was in Alberta, where the area planted is up by 60 per cent over last year, to 400,000 acres. Manitoba showed no change but Saskatchewan is higher by 500 thousand acres to 2.7 million acres.

Unless weather conditions are exceptionally good, the 1974 Canadian wheat crop is not likely to be as large as that of 1973. If the crop averages 25 bushels to the acre, total production in western Canada will be about 580 million bushels down from 609 million bushels in 1973. With an Ontario crop of 17-20 million bushels, the Canadian wheat crop may be close to 600 million bushels.

With carry-over likely to be slightly higher at July 1, 1974, than last year's 365 million bushels, there could be 975 million bushels in total wheat supplies for 1974-75 disposal. This would be slightly lower than in 1973-74. If 180 million bushels are utilized at home, there may be 800 million available for export and carry-over, which would be the lowest available supply since 1962-63.

In the United States, durum wheat planting is estimated at 3.677 million acres compared with three million in 1973, but below intentions to plant of 4.2 million acres. Similarly, other spring wheat plantings of 13.655 million acres are higher than last year by only about a third the increase indicated by early intentions to plant.

Production of all U.S. wheats including the winter wheat crop grown on 46.35 million acres has been estimated at 1,925 million bushels. This is more than 200 million bushels in excess of last year but 150 million bushels short of the June production estimate of 2,074 million bushels. With stocks to start the year at just over 200 million bushels, total supplies for 1974-75 would be almost the same as last year.

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Among the other major producers in the Northern hemisphere, there is likely to be some slight increase in production in the E.E.C. In the U.S.S.R. wheat production could be down from last year but needs may be lower and the U.S.S.R. could be an exporter.

Without having received recent U.S. revised wheat estimates, the International Wheat Council on July 2 estimated probable world import requirements for 1974-75 at 57-59 million metric tons compared with an estimated 63.5 million tons in 1973-74. The likely range of export availabilities was put at between 60 and 74 million tons. A reduction of four million tons in U.S. production would still appear to leave ample supplies to meet world needs. Price levels through the next few months will continue to be sensitive to production reports.

Coarse Grains

Barley acreage on the prairies is estimated at 11.4 million acres compared with last year's plantings of 11.7 million acres. This is almost the same as the reported intention to plant of 11.6 million acres. Barley grown in the prairie provinces normally constitutes almost 95 per cent of Canadian acreage. Alberta, with an area of 5.3 million acres is the only province with plantings equal to those of last year. Manitoba is down by 200,000 acres and Saskatchewan by 100,000 acres.

Oat plantings on the prairies are down from last year by 300,000 acres to six million acres. Intentions were for an increase of 300,000 acres. Prairie oats constituted nearly 80 per cent of Canadian oats in 1973. Alberta plantings are down from last year by 200,000 acres and Manitoba's by 100,000 acres.

The acreage of rye planted in the fall of 1973 for 1974 harvest was estimated at 750,000 acres compared with 540,000 for harvest in 1973. Principal increases were in Saskatchewan with an increased fall rye acreage of 95,000 acres to 335,000 and Alberta with an increased acreage of 105,000 to 325,000 acres. Spring rye plantings of 42,000 acres for the prairies was unchanged.

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An average yield of barley in the Prairie Provinces would result in a crop almost equal to last year's crop of 449 million bushels. Stocks of barley at the end of March were 33 million bushels less than stocks a year earlier. Although exports of barley since the end of March were somewhat less than during this period in 1973, stocks at the end of this crop year will be down somewhat from a year ago. Supplies of barley for 1974-75 for Canada as a whole will probably be a little below total supplies last year of about 668 million. With domestic use of around 350 million, the quantity available for exports during 1974-75 and carry-over stocks at the end of the year is not likely to exceed 300 million bushels.

Oats supplies for all Canada may be down by as much as 25 million bushels or more to 350-375 million bushels. Acreage is lower and stocks at March 31 were running about 18 million bushels below last year. Supplies of rye could be higher than last year. Some of the increase in production estimated at 4-5 million bushels may be offset by a stock reduction which at March 31 was estimated to be lower than last year by more than two million bushels.

Canadian feed grain supplies are not likely to equal those of last year; the size of the reduction from last year, however, will depend on conditions in the next two months.

In the United States, coarse grain plantings are substantially higher than in 1973, although not quite as high as estimates of farmers' intentions to plant as of last March. The main increase over 1973 is a five million acre increase in corn from 62.5 to 67.5 million acres, an eight per cent increase. Partly offsetting the corn increase is a four per cent decrease in sorghum to an estimated 14.6 million acres. The U.S.D.A. had predicted an increase of 1,000 million bushels in corn this year, but reduced this figure to 750 million in late June. This would have been a crop of 6,400 million bushels. On July 12, an estimate of yield indicated a crop of 5,950 million to 6,350 million bushels, down by more than 200 million bushels from earlier estimates.

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Supplies of edible oils and meals outside North America could be somewhat higher in 1974-75. Prospects for production of fish oil and meal in Peru appear good although some uncertainty will remain until after the fishing season resumes in the fall. In addition, the policies of the U.S.S.R., Argentina and Brazil with respect to the export of edible oils could be liberalized as stocks of oil are rebuilt following the larger 1973-74 oilseed harvests in those countries. The increase in supplies of protein meals available to world markets will probably be quite small particularly since some rebuilding of fish meal stocks in Peru will be necessary. As a result, meal prices are likely to be quite firm and may increase. For edible oils, the increase in supplies could be more significant again depending considerably upon the export policies of the U.S.S.R., Brazil and Argentina. A moderate decrease in oil prices might, therefore, be expected over the next year.

Flaxseed acreage in Canada in 1974 is estimated to be 1.5 million acres, three per cent higher than in 1973. Assuming an average yield of 13 bushels per acre, production would total 19.5 million bushels. However, total supplies would still be only 24 million bushels, about 10 per cent lower than 1973-74.

Flaxseed plantings in the United States are estimated to be 1.7 million acres, four per cent higher than in 1973. Assuming a yield of 12 bushels per acre and a 95 per cent harvesting rate, production could total 19.4 million bushels giving total supplies of 23.6 million bushels (including seed equivalent of linseed oil stocks) compared to 25.6 million bushels in 1973-74. Thus, flaxseed supplies in North America could be down by five million bushels or 10 per cent. Although Argentina, the other large exporter, is expected to increase production somewhat, export supplies of flaxseed will likely remain relatively tight in 1974-75.

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Y-94
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Subject: GRAINS AND OILSEEDS SITUATION AND OUTLOOK

OTTAWA, October 8, 1974 — The following comments on the grains and oilseeds situation and outlook were released today by Agriculture Canada's Marketing and Trade Division.

SUMMARY

Production of all major grains in Canada will be lower this year, except for rye. Statistics Canada's September production forecast of October 4 indicates a corn estimate higher than last year but heavy frost before maturity will likely show a sharp decline in the November report.

The United States, like Canada, has suffered from severe weather problems and all major crops except winter wheat are lower than expected earlier on the basis of acreage planted.

On a world basis, wheat supplies appear to be adequate for current needs, but not to build stocks. Feed grain supplies will not be adequate for equal feeding programs to last year. Protein meal supplies will also be lower.

Wheat

Canada

Wheat production in Canada in 1974 is forecast at 524 million bushels. This is 13 per cent less than in 1973. With carry-in supplies of 379 million bushels, total supplies are estimated at just over 900 million bushels. Continued bad weather in late September and early October make the final harvest figure far from certain. Large quantities of this year's crop will grade No. 3 CWRS or fall into utility grades.

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Canada has been using about 170 million bushels for all purposes domestically. While this leaves 730 million bushels for export and carry-over, the amount of wheat which will be of feed quality only will be greater than usual.

Canada's durum production is up by 20 per cent over last year to 62.5 million bushels. Ontario winter wheat, on record yields, is estimated to be up by one third to 19.6 million bushels.

United States

U.S.D.A. September estimates indicate a record production of 1,791 million bushels. While this is up by 80 million bushels from last year, the spring wheat yields are down sharply. Total supplies are down from last year by 110 million bushels as a direct result of lower carry-over stocks. However lower export sales are expected to result in an increased carry-over next July.

World

In the EEC, wheat production will be up by about four per cent to 43 million tons. Estimates for the U.S.S.R. indicate a crop of only 90 million tons compared with last year's huge crop of 109.7 million. Australia could be down by about four per cent from last year's bumper crop to 11.5 million tons. Indian production is also expected to be lower. Argentine production is expected to increase by 12 per cent to 7.5 million tons. Total world production is expected to be down from last year by four to five per cent.

U.S.D.A. has forecast that world stocks outside of China would be down at the year's end by three to four million tons. With tighter than expected world supplies of exportable wheat relative to demand, prices can be expected to remain at relatively high levels.

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Feed Grains

Canada

Barley production is forecast at 402 million bushels, 14 per cent below last year. With a sizeable carry-in of 203 million bushels, supplies would be 605 million bushels compared with 663 million last year. Disappearance of barley and other feed grain in Canada could be down by five to 10 per cent in 1974-75. While barley disappearance might not greatly exceed 300 million bushels, there would still be only about 300 million bushels available for export and carry-over compared with 330 million last year.

Oat production at 272 million bushels is down by 17 per cent from last year. Estimated supplies at 348 million bushels would be the lowest since 1947-48. Domestic use alone last year was 330 million and in several recent years has exceeded this year's supply.

Rye production at 19.2 million bushels is up by five million bushels and total supplies are similarly higher.

Mixed grains are down by seven million bushels to 90 million.

Corn production is forecast at 112 million bushels — about the same as last year. However, heavy frost about September 21 will likely lead to a sharp reduction.

United States

U.S. corn production in September is forecast at 4,995 million bushels, down by 11 per cent from the 5,643 million last year, on sharply higher acreage but much lower yields. Corn supplies, on the basis of October stock estimates, are about 930 million bushels less than last year. Other feed grain supplies, particularly sorghum, are also forecast to be lower, leaving the U.S. with a feed grain supply of 195.6 million tons compared with 238 million tons last year. Since the corn production estimates were made, some heavy frosts may have further affected yields in the north half of the corn belt.

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World

Feed grain production is expected to be higher in 1974-75 in Australia, the Argentine, and the U.S.S.R. However, the shortfall in the U.S.A. and Canada from last year will result in a world production down to about 580 million metric tons compared with 602 million last year. With tight supplies of feed grain, world prices are not likely to slacken appreciably this crop year from current relatively high levels.

Oilseeds

Canada

Rapeseed production in Canada is forecast at 52.3 million bushels, about one million bushels or two per cent less than last year. Stocks were down by 8.4 million bushels to 12.2 million, so total supplies are about nine million bushels less than last year at 65 million bushels. If we use 22 to 24 million bushels domestically, we would have available for carry-over and export only 41-43 million bushels compared with 56.4 million last year.

Flaxseed production is forecast to be down by 16 per cent at 16.3 million bushels compared with 19.4 million last year. Total supplies at 24.5 million would be 2.5 million below last year. Quantities available for export and carry-over are likely to be down by about 2.5 million bushels to about 21 million bushels.

Soybean production is initially forecast at 12.4 million bushels, more than 15 per cent below last year. Since the estimate was made, heavy frost was widespread in the soybean area and yields may be further reduced.

United States

September estimates put the United States soybean crop at 1,316 million bushels, down by 251 million bushels or 16 per cent from last year's crop. Stocks at September 1 were about 172 million bushels compared with 60 million last year. Total supplies are thus about 1,488 million bushels, some 138 below last year. U.S. supplies of flaxseed will be down by about three million bushels to 17.4 million.

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World

For oilseeds generally in 1974-75, an overall reduction in production is expected of 1.5 million tons to 122.5 million metric tons. Some factors offsetting the U.S. shortfall in soybeans include:

— an expected increase in Brazilian soybeans;

— an improved peanut crop in Sahelian countries from improved rainfall;

— large increases in laurics and palm oil;

— improved fish meal and oil production in Peru.

Protein supplies in the world will be smaller than usual. However, demand could be lower for feeding livestock and poultry. Supplies of oil could improve easing the tightness and causing prices to relax. Flaxseed supplies will remain tight with high prices.

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Y-94
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Z-101
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Subject: STABILIZATION BOARD APPOINTMENTS

OTTAWA, October 16, 1975 — Agriculture Minister Eugene Whelan today announced the appointment of Dr. E.J. LeRoux to the Agricultural Stabilization Board and the Agricultural Products Board.

Dr. LeRoux, Director-General (Operations) of Agriculture Canada's Research Branch, fills the vacancy left by the resignation of Dr. R.P. Poirier, former Assistant Deputy Minister of Agriculture and now with the Canadian International Development Agency.

At the same time, Mr. Whelan announced that C.R. Phillips, Assistant Deputy Minister, Production and Marketing, will become vice-chairman of the two boards. Mr. Phillips was appointed to the board in April.

Chairman of both boards is W.E. Jarvis, Senior Assistant Deputy Minister of Agriculture.

The Agricultural Stabilization Board administers the Agricultural Stabilization Act which Parliament amended this year. The board is responsible for the development of programs under this act and advises the government on the stabilization of prices of agricultural commodities.

The Agricultural Products Board is empowered to buy and sell commodities when such action is necessary to avert wastage or to stabilize prices.

Dr. LeRoux, 53, joined Agriculture Canada in 1950 as a research scientist. In 1965 he was made Research Co-ordinator for Entomology and in 1968 was named Assistant Director-General of the Research Branch in charge of research institutes and services. He was promoted to Director-General (Operations) last month.

Mr. Phillips joined Agriculture Canada's Plant Products Division in 1948 and became director of the division in 1960. He was appointed Director-General of the Production and Marketing Branch in 1966 and was named Assistant Deputy Minister in July of this year.

Agriculture Canada

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A-19
For Immediate Release
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Subject: DAIRY PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT

OTTAWA, April 13, 1976 -- Agriculture Minister Eugene Whelan today announced the federal dairy program for 1976-77.

Effective today, the target returns level has been raised to $11.45 per hundredweight for industrial milk (3.5 per cent butter fat) from the 1975-76 level of $11.02.

"The new target returns level is determined in accordance with the long-term dairy policy which I announced last year and which provides for adjustments equal to increased production costs. For last year, production costs increased by 3.9 per cent which raises the target support level by $0.43," Mr. Whelan said.

Retroactive to April 1, the direct federal subsidy paid to industrial milk and cream producers will be $2.66 per hundred pounds of milk, unchanged from last year.

"The decision of the government to maintain the subsidy at a rate of $2.66 means that the increase in dairy product prices will be held to a minimum. It is consistent with the government's anti-inflation program and its responsibilities to consumers and producers," Mr. Whelan said.

To reach this year's target returns, the support price of butter will be increased by 5 cents to $1.08 per pound and the support price for skim milk powder will be increased by 4 cents to 68 cents per pound, effective today.

Mr. Whelan recalled that when he announced the long-term policy, he made it clear to the dairy industry that production would have to be controlled to prevent unmanageable and costly surpluses.

"Sufficient control on production was not exercised in 1975-76. The industry has no choice but to bring down production in the 1976-77 dairy year, and the provinces and producers' organizations, whose cooperation is essential, have recognized and agreed to this."

The Canadian Milk Supply Management Committee, which is chaired by the Canadian Dairy Commission and made up of representatives of producers and provincial governments, has estimated that domestic market requirements are 95 million hundredweights of industrial milk for 1976-77.

"This is the maximum volume that will be eligible for the direct subsidy of $2.66 per hundredweight and payments to each producer during the year will be made on up to 94.5 per cent of his deliveries within market share quota. A final adjustment will be made at the year end," Mr. Whelan said.

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"I realize that bringing production into line with demand will be a difficult adjustment for dairy farmers. It is fully consistent with the understanding we have with producers that production should not exceed domestic market requirements. This is what supply management means."

Mr. Whelan noted that in order to ease the production adjustment as much as possible, the federal government has kept cheese imports unchanged at 50 million pounds for 1976-77. Countries subsidizing their exports of cheese into Canada are being approached to resolve this issue in hope that there will be no need to reconsider terms of access.

"The Canadian Dairy Commission, the provinces and representatives of the dairy farmers are asking producers to sharply cut back from the 111 million hundredweights they shipped last year.

"Accordingly, the total Market Share Quota has been set at 100.5 million hundredweights which provincial marketing boards will allocate among producers. This is expected to result in actual production of 95 million hundredweights. Producers will have to pay a levy of $8.60 per hundredweight for production over their share of the 95 million.

"A special levy of $8.60 per hundredweight collected on in-quota deliveries above 95 million hundredweight but within the 100.5 million hundredweight total Market Share Quota will be refunded at the end of the dairy year, provided total in-quota production does not exceed 95 million hundredweights," Mr. Whelan said.

"The federal government is contributing $24 million towards marketing costs, an increase of $15 million over the amount provided in last year's budget. The increased costs of selling surplus product on the world market will require a substantially higher levy rate. The remaining marketing costs will have to be financed through the levy as well. The levy in 1976-77, which will apply to all shipments within Market Share Quota, has been established by the Canadian Dairy Commission at $1.35.

"I have approved the subsidy payment and product price support program on the condition that provincial agencies and dairy farmers cooperate with the CDC to bring production in line with market requirements. The big adjustment must be made now, early in the dairy year. To accomplish this, the provinces should implement a monthly allocation of market quotas to each individual producer of manufacturing milk. If a province does not establish satisfactory controls, I have instructed the CDC to take appropriate action."

Mr. Whelan also emphasized that milk producers would benefit from complete integration of industrial and fluid milk markets. Producers would receive equal returns for equal quality, whether the milk was intended for manufacturing or fluid sales. The required levy on manufacturing milk would also be more equally shared among producers.

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"For the current dairy year, should any province wish to establish an alternate method of collecting the regular in-quota levy from their producers, the Canadian Dairy Commission will be prepared to review their proposals," he said.

"I am asking the Canadian Dairy Commission to consult with provincial governments and marketing boards during the year to work out a program for complete integration of their industrial and fluid milk producers. This could provide a basis for future federal subsidy programs. I have also asked the Commission to review within the framework of approved policy other aspects of the program in their entirety."

Mr. Whelan also challenged milk producers to become more energetic promoters of their product.

"Dairy farmers must make people realize that milk is a good buy," he said. "People don't buy dairy products just because they're sitting on the supermarket shelf. I want to see dairy farmers become more promotion conscious and advertise their products to the consumer."

Producers of industrial milk face some tough adjustments in the coming year, he said.

"However, I know farmers, and I know that they will cooperate with the decision to cut back production. They know that unless this step is taken, they will face larger surpluses that will only be harder to handle in the future and lower returns on their milk."

Finally, Mr. Whelan emphasized that good supply management is the key to the continued prosperity of the Canadian dairy industry. It remains the policy of the government to ensure that efficient producers of milk and cream are given the opportunity to earn reasonable returns. In keeping with its policy, the government will be paying subsidies of $253 million directly to producers and $24 million for marketing costs. Last year a total of $275 million covered these costs, an increase over the 1974-75 dairy year's figure of $251.1 million.

In addition, product prices will be supported at $1.08 per pound of butter and 68 cents per pound of skim milk powder. To provide this support, the federal government is increasing its loan limit to the Canadian Dairy Commission to $334 million, to finance the purchase of these products. Last year the loan was set at $300 million, three times the amount approved for the 1974-75 dairy year.

The government is also limiting cheese imports to 50 million pounds.

The Canadian International Development Agency has been instructed to investigate thoroughly the possibility of increasing the skim milk powder component of its food aid program either on a bilateral basis or through the World Food Program in countries or on projects where it can be beneficially used.

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A-47
For Immediate Release
N, DCR, DCR1

Subject: DAIRY PROGRAM

OTTAWA, August 5, 1976 -- Agriculture Minister Eugene Whelan today announced that those provinces now imposing monthly quota allocations on manufacturing milk will be permitted to suspend or modify these allocations provided that the cumulative monthly production in a province is maintained within the target established by the Canadian Dairy Commission.

"Maintenance of production within these guidelines remains the responsibility of the individual provincial agencies," Mr. Whelan said.

Subject to the overall cumulative limit, each provincial agency will be free to set its own monthly production and shipment targets. This more flexible approach to supply management should help each province to achieve, over the course of the year, the pattern of production most suited to its needs.

Mr. Whelan noted that the most recent production figures indicate that total shipments of manufacturing milk have been declining and while still above, are close to the cumulative monthly targets set by the Canadian Dairy Commission. Production trends indicate that these targets may be achieved shortly.

"I'm pleased to say that, across-the-board, production of manufacturing milk and cream seems to be falling into line with those established targets," Mr. Whelan added. "It's clear that provincial organizations and individual producers have realized the seriousness of the situation and have responded to the call for better production management. However, a continued effort will be required if production is not to exceed domestic requirements."

"We'll be relying on the provinces to control their own situations through careful management of quota allocation," Mr. Whelan continued. "If production starts moving up again, and we find shipments exceeding established targets, then provinces would have to react

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quickly to re-implement the appropriate tighter quota controls at the direction of the Canadian Dairy Commission."

Mr. Whelan also announced that the in-sleeve levy which applies to all deliveries between 94.5 per cent and 100 per cent of each individual producers' market sharing quota has been reduced to $1.35 from $8.60 per hundredweight of manufacturing milk for the current dairy year. This reduction in levy will apply only in those provinces which effectively guarantee adequate quota withdrawal and underwrite the cost of any in-sleeve production.

This action is being taken with the understanding that the Milk Supply Management Committee and provincial agencies will cooperate with the Canadian Dairy Commission to ensure that domestic production will not exceed market requirements and that in-sleeve production will be effectively discouraged.

Cumulative production will continue to be very carefully monitored on a month-to-month basis by the Canadian Dairy Commission.

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A-66
For Immediate Release
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Subject: DAIRY PROGRAM ADJUSTMENTS

OTTAWA, October 19, 1976 -- Agriculture Minister Eugene Whelan today announced adjustments in the 1976-77 dairy program.

"When I announced the 1976-77 dairy program this past April, I said that dairy farmers would have to make some difficult adjustments in their production if we were going to get industrial milk supplies back in line with demand," Mr. Whelan said.

"The necessary cuts in milk production have affected all dairy farmers and hit some of them especially hard.

"I have a great deal of confidence in Canada's dairy farmers and in the supply-management system we have for industrial milk in this country. Last year, however, our supply-management system didn't work as well as it should have. Farmers produced too much milk. Two factors beyond our control contributed greatly to the problem. Good pasture conditions and good grain crops in 1975 pushed up dairy production. And world markets for dairy products were depressed and we couldn't sell our surplus product outside Canada.

"This year, it was necessary to reduce quotas and impose levies on production in excess of domestic requirements. Canadian dairy farmers have cooperated successfully in the effort to reduce production. Thanks to their cooperation, our supply-management system is now working very well and production is under control."

In bringing production in line with domestic requirements, many industrial milk shippers have found themselves short of quota and have been hard pressed in trying to make ends meet. To assist these producers, the federal government is making the following adjustments in the 1976-77 dairy program.

First, the federal government is increasing the amount of Market Share Quota (MSQ) by four million hundredweights to 99 million hundredweights from 95 million, with a subsidy of $2.66 per hundredweight, which could amount to $10.64 million.

The extra quota will be allocated to provinces in accordance with existing market shares. But, within each province they are to be distributed in such a way as to help the producers who have been hardest hit by the changes in production levels required this year and who are in the greatest need of additional quota.

The Canadian Dairy Commission will be meeting shortly with the provincial agencies to discuss the allocation of the additional quota on the basis of the following criteria:

1) those producers who shipped between 85 and 105 per cent of their 1974-75 quota in 1975-76 and whose 1976-77 quotas are below their 1974-75 allotments;
2) those who entered milk production last year with the expectation that they could retain or increase their 1975-76 levels, and
3) those other individual cases that warrant special consideration.

"Although our success in controlling production has allowed us to make these adjustments, we still want to ensure that production is kept in line with domestic demand. The achievement of this objective depends on obtaining the necessary commitments from the provinces," Mr. Whelan said.

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"We expect assurances that any of the extra quota not used by producers will be withdrawn from the system by the end of the 1977-78 dairy year, that no transfer of the new quotas will be allowed between producers before April, 1978 and, in addition, that the provincial milk boards will retire a portion of any other quota transferred between producers."

A subsidy of $2.66 per hundredweight will be paid on any additional production resulting from the increase in quota only to the extent that it is produced by the individual to whom extra quota is allocated. Any shortfall in this production is not to be used to increase the subsidy entitlements of other producers.

The in-sleeve levy of $8.60 per hundredweight will continue to apply to each individual producer. Any shipments over the new quota will still be subject to an $8.60 levy.

The Canadian Dairy Commission will also be meeting with the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce and with the provinces to plan further steps to reduce stocks of butter and skim milk powder and to divert industrial milk production away from butter and skim milk powder into cheese and other dairy products where possible.

A meeting of the Milk Supply Management Committee will be called by the Canadian Dairy Commission this week.

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news AGRICULTURE CANADA
OTTAWA K1A OC7
994-9551

B-86
For Immediate Release
N,DCR,DCR1

Subject: INDUSTRIAL MILK PRICE INCREASE

OTTAWA, December 30, 1977 — Agriculture Minister Eugene Whelan today announced an increased target returns level for industrial milk to $12.18 per hundredweight for milk shipments under market share quota effective January 1, 1978.

The target returns level is calculated according to the long-term dairy policy Returns Adjustment Formula established in April 1975. The formula measures the change in farmers' average cash costs and the consumer price index (used as a measure of changes in the value of farmers' labor) plus other factors. Input prices are monitored quarterly during the dairy year and an interim price increase is indicated when there is a four per cent change from the current returns level.

This is the first time since the formula's inception that a price adjustment has become necessary during the dairy year and is a reflection of increasing farm costs since the last price change in April 1977. The increase in farmers' target returns for industrial milk is provided by raising the support prices for butter and skim milk powder.

The Canadian Dairy Commission is authorized to increase the support price for butter by $0.04 (3.39 per cent) to $1.22 a pound. For skim milk powder, the support price is increased 2.86 per cent, from $0.70 to $0.72 a pound.

The support prices for butter and skim milk powder are the level at which the Canadian Dairy Commission offers to purchase these products in Canada. Manufacturers sell butter and skim milk powder first to the wholesale and retail markets and the surplus product is bought by the Canadian Dairy Commission at the support prices.

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Earlier in the year, a somewhat higher price adjustment was indicated by the formula. However, in delaying the adjustment and reducing it so that it covers only slightly more than increased cash costs of industrial milk producers, both producer and consumer interests have been taken into account.

The increased support prices for butter and skim milk powder will likely result in increases in the prices of milk going into other products such as cheese, yogurt and ice cream by an equivalent amount in order to permit the overall increase in producer returns. However, the exact amount of the change in prices to producers is subject to negotiations between milk producers' and manufacturers' representatives at the provincial level.

"Price increases to consumers for dairy products should be well within the Anti-Inflation Board guidelines," Mr. Whelan said.

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C-27
For Immediate Release
N, DCR, DCR1

Subject: DAIRY PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT

OTTAWA, April 13, 1978 — Agriculture Minister Eugene Whelan today announced the federal dairy program for 1978-79.

"Most dairy farmers had a good year in 1977-78. With the strong financial support of the federal government and the co-operation of producers and provincial marketing organizations, the coming year should be even better," Mr. Whelan said.

"This year's program will increase the producer's net returns by about 76 cents per hundredweight compared with April 1, 1977. For a producer of 300,000 pounds of industrial milk, that means an additional $2,300."

The increase in farmer returns will mean a five-cent increase in the support price for butter and a two-cent increase in the skim milk powder support price.

"These increases are less than the general rate of inflation and are necessary to maintain producer incomes in the face of rising costs," Mr. Whelan said. "We have kept the direct federal subsidy on industrial milk production at $2.66 per hundredweight. This subsidy keeps retail dairy product prices lower than they would otherwise be.

"As in other years, supply management is the key to the success of this year's dairy program. Individual producers have the responsibility of managing their herds to stay within their individual market sharing quotas."

The main features of the 1978-79 dairy program, effective April 1, are:

* total market sharing quota, April 1, 1978 to March 31, 1979 is unchanged at 103.7 million hundredweights (45.7 million hectolitres);[1]
* federal subsidy remains at $2.66 per hundredweight ($6.04 per hectolitre of milk with 3.604 per cent butterfat) paid on industrial milk and cream produced to fill Canadian requirements;

[1] One hectolitre is equal to 227 pounds of milk.

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* target price raised to $12.42 per hundredweight ($28.19 per hectolitre) from $12.18 per hundredweight;
* support price for butter raised five cents to $1.27 per pound ($2.80 per kilogram) and support price for skim milk powder raised two cents to 74 cents per pound ($1.63 per kilogram);
* levy on in-quota production reduced to $1.00 per hundredweight ($2.27 per hectolitre) from $1.20 per hundredweight;
* new contingency levy of 20 cents per hundredweight (45 cents per hectolitre) collected on all industrial milk and cream deliveries under quota, refundable to producers not producing in the sleeve or if sleeve production is needed to meet Canadian milk requirements;
* levy of $1.00 per hundredweight ($2.27 per hectolitre) on surplus cream diverted from fluid to industrial use;

  (The levy is equivalent to 20 cents per hundredweight (45 cents per hectolitre) on all fluid milk shipments; last year's fluid levy was 25 cents per hundredweight.)
* over-quota levy raised 50 cents to $7.50 per hundredweight ($ 17.03 per hectolitre);
* while principle of producer responsibility for export disposal of dairy products in excess of domestic requirement is reaffirmed, federal budget for export losses in 1978-79 raised to $24.8 million from $15 million;
* Canadian Dairy Commission budget for product promotion, research and market development raised to $6.5 million from $4 million;
* cheese import quotas reduced to 45 million pounds (20.4 million kilograms) from 50 million pounds;
* market sharing quota period to be altered from the April 1 to March 31 basis to an August 1 to July 31 basis starting next year;

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* all provinces will administer quotas in four month allotments to ensure that individual producers do not run out of quota and have incomes reduced for long periods of time;
* Canadian International Development Agency budget to buy skim milk powder for food aid unchanged at $20 million;
* Canadian Dairy Commission investigating new ways to increase domestic industrial use of skim milk powder which could reduce export costs;
* In summary, the federal government has allocated $329 million to the 1978-79 dairy program as follows:

  $260.7 million in producer subsidy payments,

  $ 24.8 million for export assistance,

  $ 17.0 million for carrying charges,

  $ 6.5 million for market promotion and research,

  $ 20.0 million for international food aid.

Milk Production Policies

The Canadian Milk Supply Management Committee — made up of representatives of producers and provincial governments and chaired by the Canadian Dairy Commission — has estimated market requirements for industrial milk in 1978-79 will be 98 million hundredweights (43.2 million hectolitres), the same as in 1977-78. Total market sharing quota is made up of these market requirements plus a five per cent sleeve. The Milk Supply Management Committee monitors demand during the year and makes adjustments in market sharing quota if necessary.

"The provincial boards are responsible for individual quota allocations. It is my hope that the boards will show a special concern in their quota policies for small producers who may have been disadvantaged by quota cutbacks in the past," Mr. Whelan said.

"Also, if a quota cut should be required during the year, it should be done through transfer assessments or other means that would not cut individual quotas.

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"The changes in the quota period (to an August 1 to July 31 basis) and the administration of quotas on a four-month basis will help us to get a more even pattern of production in relation to Canadian requirements and will ensure that producers do not run out of quota and income for long periods of time."

In addition, the Canadian Dairy Commission is working with the provinces to develop further programs to even out production throughout the year. Dairy farmers can expect regulations and incentives towards this end to be implemented in the 1979-80 dairy year.

"Another important aspect of our dairy policy is the move towards integrating the fluid and industrial sectors. I have always stressed my belief that all dairy farmers should receive the same return for milk of equal quality when other production constraints have been met. I have asked the provinces to aim for integration of their fluid and industrial sectors by 1980 and I hope to see further progress toward this goal in the coming dairy year."

Surplus Disposal

Exports of surplus skim milk powder during 1977-78 were encouraging, Mr. Whelan said. Stocks held by the Canadian Dairy Commission at year-end were 30 million pounds (13.6 million kilograms) compared with 177.5 million pounds in storage on April 1, 1977, and 282 million pounds in storage on April 1, 1976. Moreover, all current inventories and a substantial portion of next year's production have been sold.

Butter inventories are somewhat higher than usual — 32 million pounds (14.5 million kilograms) — however, funds are available from last year's dairy program to pay for disposal of excess supplies.

Production of sufficient butterfat to meet Canadian requirements in 1978-79 will again result in a surplus of skim milk powder.

"Even though world market prices for skim milk powder have increased during the past year, the large surpluses created by other countries have kept prices below normal

levels. As a result, there is still a heavy financial burden for Canadian dairy farmers and the federal government has again decided to set limits on producer responsibility for export losses," Mr. Whelan said.

"It is hoped that the in-quota levy will be sufficient to cover export losses because this would be consistent with the principle of producer responsibility for export disposal of dairy products in excess of domestic requirements. However, for the 1978-79 dairy year, federal funds will be used to finance additional export costs if necessary and a budget of $24.8 million has been set aside for this purpose. In 1977-78, the government committed $15 million for export costs, however, through careful management and marketing the Canadian Dairy Commission spent substantially less than the amount budgeted."

The special contingency levy will cover the disposal costs for any in-sleeve production that is surplus to Canadian requirements. However, no producer will have to pay for disposal of sleeve production of another producer and no province will have to pay for sleeve production in another province. The contingency levy will be refunded to the individual producer at the end of the dairy year if he has not produced in the sleeve or if production into the sleeve is needed to meet Canadian requirements.

Mr. Whelan said he is pleased with the results of the butterfat exchange program introduced by the Canadian Dairy Commission in the past year.

"The Canadian Dairy Commission will be continuing the program in 1978-79 and developing new markets for whole milk powder and evaporated milk. Sales of these products result in better returns to producers than skim milk powder," Mr. Whelan said.

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The 1978-79 Dairy Program in Relation to Other Years

	1975-76	1976-77	1977-78	1978-79
Total Market Sharing Quota (hundredweights of milk)	$127.9 million[1] $121.6 million[2]	$100.5 million	$105.6 million[3] $103.7 million[4]	$103.7 million
Target Returns (per hundredweight)	$11.02	$ 11.45	$ 11.86[3] $ 12.18[5]	$ 12.42
Direct Subsidy (per hundredweight)	$ 2.66	$ 2.66	$ 2.66	$ 2.66
Butter Support Price (per pound)	$ 1.03	$ 1.08	$ 1.18[3] $ 1.22[5]	$ 1.27
Skim Milk Powder Support Price (per pound)	$ .64	$ .68	$ .70[3] $ .72[5]	$ .74
In-Quota Levy Including Sleeve (per hundredweight)	$ .45[6] $ .65[7]	$ 1.35[8]	$ 1.20	$ 1.00[9]
Over-Quota Levy (per hundredweight)	None	$ 8.60	$ 7.00	$ 7.50
Fluid Levy (per hundredweight)	None	None	$ .25	$ .20
Total Federal Allocations	$275 million	$277 million	$477 million	$329 million

1 As of April 1, 1975

2 As of July 1, 1975

3 Announced April 4, 1977

4 Adjusted by Canadian Milk Supply Management Committee July 1, 1977

5 Increases made under returns adjustment formula January 1, 1978

6 Established April 1, 1975

7 Adjusted July 1, 1975

8 In 1976-77, the levy collected on in-sleeve production was $8.60.

9 The special 20-cent contingency levy will cover any extra costs for sleeve production disposal.

Agriculture Canada Information
news AGRICULTURE CANADA OTTAWA K1A OC7 994-9551

Subject: DAIRY PROGRAM BACKGROUNDER

OTTAWA, April 13, 1978 -- The following is provided as background information on the 1978-79 federal dairy program.

A Perspective on Dairy Policy

The dairy industry contributes almost $2 billion annually to the Canadian economy. Canadian farmers produce about 95 per cent of all dairy products consumed by Canadians. In 1977, payments to dairy farmers for milk and cream accounted for about 17 per cent of total farm cash receipts.

Milk in Canada is divided between two markets -- fluid milk for drinking and industrial milk for manufacturing into butter, cheese, ice cream, skim milk powder and other dairy products. Fluid milk production and sales are under provincial jurisdiction. The federal government plays a large role in co-ordinating and supporting industrial milk production across the country.

The goal of the federal dairy policy is to provide efficient producers of milk and cream with the opportunity to obtain a fair return for their labor and investment and to provide consumers of dairy products with a continuous and adequate supply of high quality dairy products.

How Milk Production Quotas Are Set

The key to the federal dairy program is effective supply management.

The Canadian Milk Supply Management Committee has the responsibility of determining milk requirements and establishing market sharing quotas to bring forward this volume. This committee is made up of representatives of the provincial milk and cream producer boards, the provincial governments and the Canadian Dairy Commission which chairs the committee.

The committee estimates the total demand for industrial milk and cream. For 1978-79, the demand is estimated at 98 million hundredweights (43.2 million hectolitres).

Total market sharing quota is then set to bring forward the milk and cream production needed to meet this demand. It is difficult for farmers to produce exactly the amount required to meet the estimated demand. Moreover, there are always some producers leaving the industry and there is normally a time lag before their quotas are assigned to other producers. Accordingly, a sleeve or tolerance zone for production is used to ensure that producers as a whole are able to produce the full amount of domestic requirements. The Canadian Milk Supply Management Committee has determined that a five per cent sleeve is necessary to achieve the desired production level. Total market sharing quota is therefore five per cent higher than the estimated requirements, plus a small amount of quota protected for some provinces. Thus, the total quota for 1978-79 is 103.7 million hundredweights (45.7 million hectolitres).

Producers receive their individual quotas (including the five per cent sleeve) from their provincial milk and cream agencies.

How Producer Prices Are Determined

In April, 1975, the federal government established a formula for setting base returns to farmers for industrial milk and cream.

This returns adjustment formula is used by the Canadian Dairy Commission in determining the target returns farmers are to receive. It is based on farmers' average cash production costs and the consumer price index (used as a measure of changes in the value of a farmer's labor). In setting the level of target returns, judgment factors are also included.

Dairy farmers do not receive the full target returns. Levies, transportation costs, and provincial assessments for administration and advertising are deducted before a producer receives his money.

How the Dairy Program Affects Retail Prices

Most of the target returns are paid to farmers by dairy manufacturers -- creameries, cheese factories and other processors. However, in order to reduce the price of dairy products to consumers, the federal government pays part of the cost of producing industrial milk. This is paid as a direct subsidy to farmers by the Canadian Dairy Commission. This year's subsidy is $2.66 per hundredweight ($6.04 per hectolitre), the same amount as in the past three years.

The amount that dairy manufacturers pay to farmers for industrial milk and cream is indirectly determined by the support prices for butter and skim milk powder set by the Canadian Dairy Commission.

This year's support prices are $1.27 per pound for butter ($2.80 per kilogram) and 74 cents per pound for skim milk powder ($1.63 per kilogram). In effect, these support prices are the floor price for these commodities in Canada. Wholesalers can buy them from domestic manufacturers at these prices or above. When the wholesale and retail trades have purchased all the butter and skim milk powder they require, the rest is bought by the Canadian Dairy Commission at the support prices.

The support price for butter has risen by five cents per pound this year, so the retail price will go up by at least this amount. The rise in skim milk powder prices will be at least two cents per pound. In addition, the recent removal of the federal consumer subsidy on instantized skim milk powder will result in a further price increase of at least 34 cents.

Some New Aspects in the 1978-79 Program

The contingency levy of 20 cents per hundredweight (45 cents per hectolitre) is new this year.

An in-quota levy of $1.00 per hundredweight ($2.27 per hectolitre) is being collected on all deliveries within quota. This amount should pay for disposing of surplus milk products made from milk delivered to meet Canadian requirements. Over-quota deliveries are subject to a levy of $7.50 per hundredweight ($17.03 per

hectolitre) and this amount covers the cost of disposing of surplus products produced from over-quota milk and cream.

This leaves the problem of milk delivered within quota but surplus to the estimated demand -- that is, in the five per cent sleeve. Some producers and provinces will not use all of their market sharing quota and may not produce any milk in the sleeve. However, others may produce their total quota including the sleeve and if this amount is not needed for domestic requirements, the cost of disposing of the surplus will be met from the contingency levy.

No producer will have to pay for the excess production of another producer and no province will have to pay for sleeve production in another province. If a producer does not produce in the sleeve, he will have the contingency levy returned to him at the end of the dairy year. Similarly, if his province as a whole has not produced in the sleeve, his contingency levy will be returned. And, if domestic requirements exceed the estimates and the sleeve production can be used in Canada, the levy will be refunded. Should any portion of the sleeve production not be needed to meet Canadian requirements, the contingency levy will be used to finance the disposal of the associated surplus products.

Another new feature is the <u>change in the quota period</u>. The peak milk production period is normally the early summer months when dairy cattle are put on pasture. In the past, some farmers have used too much of their quota in the summer months and run short of quota the following winter. By starting the quota period in the fall and ending it soon after the flush summer season, farmers are less likely to overproduce early in the quota period. Also, they will be able to gear their summer production to the amount of quota they have left.

Four-month quota allotments will also assist farmers in evening out production and will help them from running out of quota and income for a substantial period of time.

During the 1977-78 dairy year, the Canadian Dairy Commission began a butterfat exchange program. Under this program, whole milk powder, evaporated milk or other dairy products containing butterfat are exported and an equivalent amount of butterfat is imported into Canada in the form of butter.

Why import butter when we have enough in Canada? The world market for products containing butterfat is developing at the same time that skim milk powder prices are remaining low. By exporting whole milk products and importing butter, the Canadian Dairy Commission cuts down on the amount of surplus skim milk powder produced in Canada, thus cutting down on the expense of disposing of this surplus product at low world prices.

The butterfat exchange program will be continued in 1978-79 and will continue to reduce the export cost of surplus milk solids.

Metric Conversion

The dairy industry is in the midst of going metric. Consumers are already buying some dairy products, such as ice cream, in metric-sized containers. On the producer side of the industry, farm sales of milk switched to a metric basis last year in Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick and British Columbia. This year two other provinces are also going metric -- Ontario and Nova Scotia. The Canadian Dairy Commission, which develops and administers the federal dairy program, now provides producer statements in both metric and Imperial measures and will continue to do so next year.

Dairy calculations in the Imperial system are made using weight, with a 3.5 per cent butterfat content being the average base. In the metric system, volume is used as the measure of milk deliveries and the butterfat base is 3.604 per cent.

A hectolitre is 100 litres and is equivalent to about 22 gallons. In relation to milk weights, a hectolitre of milk with 6.04 kilograms of butterfat is equivalent to 2.27 hundredweights, with 3.5 per cent butterfat. One kilogram is 1,000 grams and is equivalent to about 2.2 pounds.

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C-29
For Immediate Release
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Subject: SUGAR BEET PAYMENT ANNOUNCED

OTTAWA, April 21, 1978 — Agriculture Minister Eugene Whelan today announced a stabilization payment of 93 cents per standard ton for the 1976 sugar beet crop.

The 1976 support price under the Agricultural Stabilization Act was $28.75 per standard ton (yielding 250 pounds of sugar).

"The rate of payment is based on the difference between the support level and the price sugar beet producers received for their 1976 crop. The final sales of the 1976 crop have at last been completed and the rate of payment has now been determined," Mr. Whelan said.

The calculations for determining payments are based on Prairie markets but the deficiency payment is applicable to all growers across the country.

Actual sugar yields differ among beets produced in the various provinces. Since the support price is based on a standard 250 lbs sugar per delivered ton of beets, the rates of payments per delivered ton are different for each province. Payments per delivered ton will be: Alberta, 98 cents; Manitoba, $1.02; and Quebec, 87 cents. These payments reflect the higher yield in the western provinces versus a much lower sugar yield in Quebec. Maritime producers will receive the standard payment of 93 cents per ton.

"Sugar beet growers final returns are dependent on world prices for cane sugar. The low returns for the 1976 world sugar crop made it necessary to support Canadian sugar beet producers," Mr. Whelan said.

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Producers will not have to apply to receive deficiency payments. Cheques will be sent directly to producers in Alberta, Manitoba and Quebec based on contract data already supplied by the sugar processors. New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island payments will be made on data supplied by the provincial departments of agriculture.

Total payments for sugar under the Act are expected to be about $1.4 million.

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995-8963

C-74
For Immediate Release
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Subject: INDUSTRIAL MILK PRICE INCREASE

OTTAWA, December 22, 1978 — Agriculture Minister Eugene Whelan today announced an increase in the target returns for industrial milk from $12.42 to $12.94 per hundredweight ($28.19 to $29.37 per hectolitre) effective January 2, 1979.

Milk in Canada is divided between two markets — fluid milk for drinking and industrial milk for manufacturing into butter, cheese, ice cream, skim milk powder and other dairy products.

Industrial milk is milk sold to processors for manufacturing butter, cheese, skim milk powder, yogurt, ice cream or other dairy products.

Farmers' target returns for industrial milk are based on the level of support prices offered by the Canadian Dairy Commission (CDC) to purchase butter and skim milk powder in Canada.

The target returns level is calculated according to the Returns Adjustment Formula established in April, 1975. The formula measures the change in farmers' average cash costs and the consumer price index (used as a measure of changes in the value of farmers' labor) plus other factors. Input prices are monitored quarterly during the dairy year.

The new support price for butter will be $1.32 per pound — an increase of five cents (four per cent).

For skim milk powder, the support price will be five per cent higher, rising from 74 to 78 cents per pound.

Retail prices for dairy products will likely reflect these increased support levels.

Mr. Whelan said butter and skim milk powder price increases had been kept as small as possible in line with the federal government's commitment to maintain reasonable food prices.

The change in milk prices for each type of processed dairy product (and hence retail prices for these food items) is subject to negotiation between milk producers and processors at the provincial level. There will be no direct impact on the price of table milk and cream, the pricing of which is determined at the provincial level

"An adjustment in target returns for industrial milk was due last August according to the Returns Adjustment Formula used to set industrial milk prices," Mr. Whelan said.

When the formula was recalculated last August, it showed that feed costs had increased 9.1 per cent from April, 1978, while other cash costs and returns to labor had each climbed 4.5 per cent over the same period.

"The target returns increase will cover Canadian dairy farmers' higher cash costs without upsetting the current stability of production quotas."

Mr. Whelan complimented the dairy industry for the stability it has achieved in the past year.

Industrial milk production quotas have remained constant at 98 million hundredweights (43.2 million hectolitres) since July 1977.

Production appears to be right on this target amount for 1978-79. Even with the effects of the January 2 price increase, consumption of dairy products in the current dairy year should also be about 98 million hundredweights in milk equivalent.

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995-8963

D-17
For Immediate Release
N, DCR, DCR1

Subject: NATIONAL DAIRY PROGRAM 1979-1980

OTTAWA, March 30, 1979 -- Agriculture Minister Eugene Whelan today announced the highlights of the 1979-80 Dairy Program:

1) Starting this year, the Dairy Program will cover the period August 1 to July 31 with respect to allocation of quotas and all other elements of the program.

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2) The current dairy year is extended to July 31, 1979.

The following are the elements effective between April 1 and July 31, 1979 (a four month period).

- The original estimate for Canadian requirements of 41.42 million hundredweights for this period is now estimated to be 42.43 million hundredweights in order to meet Canadian requirements for dairy products;
- The subsidy on industrial milk and cream shipments up to Canadian requirements remain at $2.66 per hundredweight of milk testing 3.5% butterfat;
- The levy structure:

  In-quota levy $1.00 per hundredweight

  Skim-off levy $1.00 per 3.5 pounds of skim-off butterfat (equivalent to $0.20 per hundredweight on Class 1 sales)

  Contingency levy $0.20 per hundredweight

  Over-quota levy $7.50 per hundredweight

NOTE: i) The in-quota levy, the contingency levy and the over-quota levy can be collected either on each hundredweight of milk or on a butterfat basis as long as the provinces remain responsible for the collection of the total amount of levy calculated on the basis of 3.5 pounds of butterfat.

ii) With this provision in mind, the provinces must negotiate an agreement for a uniform method among themselves before August 1, 1980. The continued success of the National plan depends largely on the provinces' efforts to cooperate.

- The target returns level for industrial milk increases from $12.94 to $13.29 per hundredweight at 3.5% butterfat.
- The support price of butter increases from $1.32 to $1.37 per pound.

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- The support price of skim milk powder increases from $0.78 to $0.81 per pound.

NOTE: The price of other processed dairy products will increase accordingly in order to achieve the new target return level for producers.

3) The new dairy year beginning on August 1, 1979 will contain the following elements.

- Canadian requirements for industrial milk for the above mentioned period are estimated at 98 million hundredweights plus a sleeve of 5.79% for a total Market Sharing Quota of 103.7 million hundredweights.
- The subsidy on industrial and cream shipments up to Canadian requirements remains at $2.66 per hundredweight of milk at 3.5% butterfat.
- The in-quota levy will remain at $1.00 per hundredweight for milk at 3.5% butterfat. Any surplus from the 1978-79 export account will be credited to the 1979-80 export account. Deficits in the export account resulting from errors in the estimate of requirements and prices or the adoption of inadequate levy structure will be the responsibility of the Federal government.
- The levy on skim-off, will remain at $1.00 per 3.5 pounds of skim-off butterfat equivalent to $0.20 per hundredweight of Class 1 milk.
- The contingency levy will increase from $0.20 to $0.25 per hundredweight. This levy serves to cover production in the sleeve not needed to meet Canadian requirements. If the sleeve production is needed or if there is no production in the sleeve, the levy will be refunded with interest.
- The over-quota levy will increase from $7.50 to $8.00 per hundredweight of industrial milk at 3.5% butterfat and will remain at $1.00 per pound of butterfat for cream producers.

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4) The following elements which deal with marketing and development of the industry will be in effect starting April 1, 1979, and continuing to March 31, 1980.

- A budget of $4.8 million will be allocated to the promotion of dairy products subject to an equal participation by producers. Part of this allocation could also be used for the publication of information to producers and consumers.
- A budget of $1.7 million will be established for the research on new products and better marketing methods under the direction of the Canadian Dairy Commission and Agriculture Canada.
- A budget of $10 million will be allocated to Canadian International Development Agency for the purchases of skim milk powder for its Food Aid Program to under developed countries.
- The export funds will operate as in the past to finance the exports of products such as butter, milk powder and cheese as such or combined with other products. A part of these funds could be used to promote Canadian cheese on the world market.

5) A budget of $18.9 million will be allocated to the C.D.C. for transport costs, interest and storage in relations to the support price program for butter and skim milk powder.

6) The cheese import quota will remain at 45 million pounds for 1979-80.

7) The ministers of Agriculture and Industry, Trade and Commerce will examine the impact of imports of various dairy products, feeds for farm animals containing milk solids, imitation dairy products, buttermilk and casein to determine the exact consequences of these imports and appropriate measures if necessary.

8) The federal contribution to the dairy program from April 1979 to March 31, 1980 will be $296 million compared to $305 million in 1978-79, $477 million in 1977-78 and $277 million in 1976-77.

For information: R. Lalonde - Canadian Dairy Commission
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HIGHLIGHTS

OF THE 1979/80 NATIONAL DAIRY PROGRAM

	Period between April 1/79 to July 31/79	Period between Aug. 1/79 to July 31/80
Canadian Requirements	41.42 m. cwt	98.0 m. cwt.
Sleeve	5% (43.49 m. cwt.)	5.79% (103.7 m. cwt.)
Subsidy	$2.66/cwt.	$2.66/cwt.
In-Quota Levy	$1.00/cwt.	$1.00/cwt.
Skim-Off Levy	$1.00 per 3.5 pounds of skim off butter-fat ($0.20 per cwt. of class 1 milk)	$1.00 per 3.5 pounds of skim off butter-fat ($0.20 per cwt. of class 1 milk)
Contingency Levy	$0.20/cwt.	$0.25/cwt.
Over-Quota Levy	$7.50/cwt.	$8.00/cwt.
Target Price	From $12.94 to $13.29/cwt	-
Support Price of Butter	From $1.32 to $1.37/lb	-
Support Price for Skim Milk Powder	From $0.78 to $0.81/lb	-

OTHER ELEMENTS OF THE POLICY	For the period April 1/79 to March 31/80
Subsidy	$260.68 million
Advertising & Information	$ 4.8 million
Product Research & Market Research	$ 1.7 million
Marketing Cost	$ 18.9 million
Cheese Import Quota	45 million pounds
Canadian International Development Agency	$ 10 million
Total Federal Contribution	$296 million

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D-30

For Immediate Release
11, DCR, DCR1

Subject: AGRICULTURE MINISTERS TO DISCUSS PLAN
TO BOOST DAIRY PRODUCT EXPORTS

OTTAWA, July 19, 1979 — A proposal to assist Canadian dairy farmers to increase production and boost exports of milk products will be discussed next week when the federal and provincial agriculture ministers meet in St. Andrews, N.B.

Agriculture Minister John Wise said today he would outline details of the federal proposal for consideration by the provinces during the St. Andrews meeting.

"Export development is one of the federal government's agriculture priorities," Mr. Wise said. "We are prepared to offer assistance to the dairy industry to help it pursue new export opportunities."

Under the federal proposal, each province would have the option of a small increase in its current quota allocation. On a national basis, the extra milk would be used to produce evaporated milk, whole milk powder or cheese for export to countries other than the United States and the European Economic Community (EEC).

"As a result of the recently concluded GATT negotiations, the Canadian dairy industry has gained new access for aged cheddar cheese exports to the EEC and has quotas for cheese exports to the U.S. But there is also potential for exports of whole milk products to other parts of the world. Our proposal would encourage farmers and processors to produce for these other markets," Mr. Wise explained.

"The domestic market will continue to be the number one customer of our dairy industry. The interests of Canadian consumers and benefits to the Canadian economy are always primary considerations in federal dairy program decisions.

"I will be discussing this market development proposal with my provincial colleagues next week and look forward to their input and participation. Also, the proposal will be on the agenda of the Canadian Milk Supply Management Committee when it meets here July 25 and 26.

"I hope that the provinces will take advantage of this offer of federal assistance to expand production for developing export markets," Mr. Wise said.

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D-33

For Immediate Release
11, DCR, DCR1

Subject: 1979-80 DAIRY PROGRAM

OTTAWA, August 1, 1979 — Agriculture Minister John Wise today announced details of the 1979-80 dairy program.

Effective August 1, the target returns for industrial milk are raised to $13.67 per hundredweight ($31.01 per hectolitre) from $13.29 per hundredweight ($30.15 per hectolitre).

(All prices and levies mentioned are for milk at the standard of 3.6 kilograms of butterfat per hectolitre.)

The increase in farmer returns — determined by a formula which measures changes in farmers' costs — will mean higher prices for butter, skim milk powder, cheese and other manufactured dairy products.

The support price paid by the Canadian Dairy Commission to purchase butter (in effect, a floor price in the wholesale butter trade) has been raised five cents to $1.42 per pound ($3.13 per kilogram).

The skim milk powder support price is 2.5 cents higher, as of today, at 83.5 cents per pound (184.1 cents per kilogram). Retail prices for these two products are expected to rise by similar amounts later this month.

Other aspects of the 1979-80 dairy program were announced on March 30, 1979. These included the following:

* domestic requirements for industrial milk in the dairy year from August 1, 1979 to July 31, 1980 remain at 98 million hundredweight (43.22 million hectolitres);
* total Market Sharing Quota has been set by the Canadian Milk Supply Management Committee at 103.7 million hundredweights (45.72 million hectolitres);

* the federal government will continue to pay a subsidy of $2.66 per hundredweight on industrial milk within Canadian requirements ($6.03 per hectolitre), to keep retail prices on manufactured dairy products as low as possible;
* the in-quota levy remains at $1 per hundredweight ($2.27 per hectolitre), the contingency levy is increased to 25 cents per hundredweight on in-quota production (57 cents per hectolitre) to cover export losses on any sleeve production not needed in the Canadian market, and the over-quota levy has been increased to $8 per hundredweight on milk produced in excess of individual quotas ($18.15 per hectolitre);
* the levy on skim-off will remain at 20 cents per hundredweight (45 cents per hectolitre) on all class one milk.

Export Development Proposal

At a federal-provincial meeting in St. Andrews, N.B., late last month, Agriculture Minister John Wise proposed to the provinces a plan to assist the Canadian dairy industry to develop new export markets.

The proposal was also discussed by the Canadian Milk Supply Management Committee at its meeting July 25 and 26.

A number of provinces and provincial marketing boards have expressed interest in putting the federal proposal into operation. While details are still being worked out, the following describes basically how the proposal would work.

All provinces would have the option of increasing their current quota allocation by about three per cent.

On a national basis, the three million hundredweights of extra milk would be used to produce evaporated milk, whole milk powder or cheese for export to countries other than the United States and the European Economic Community.

The federal government would pay \$1.33 per hundredweight (\$3.02 per hectolitre) on milk produced to fill the special quotas. A dairy farmer shipping milk under the extra quota would be paid the usual price from the manufacturing plant plus the federal assistance.

The federal assistance, which could amount to about \$4 million if three million hundredweights of extra milk were produced nationally, would come from savings achieved in the Canadian Dairy Commission's marketing budget.

"This program has been set up to assist the dairy industry without any additional cost to Canadian taxpayers," Mr. Wise said.

"Export development is one of my government's priorities in agriculture. But, we are also concerned about limiting new government spending. This is an example of our determination to improve government programs and, at the same time, hold down costs."

Improved Administration of Returns Formula

Since April 1975, all changes in target returns to producers have been based on a returns adjustment formula announced at that time. In addition to a price change at the beginning of the dairy year (now August 1), farmers' returns were to be adjusted whenever a change of more than four per cent occured in the formula.

As a former dairy farmer himself, Mr. Wise noted that he was well aware of concerns about the formula that have been expressed in the last few years by the Dairy Farmers of Canada.

In response to these concerns, Mr. Wise has asked the Canadian Dairy Commission to work with dairy farmers and other interested groups to consider the major criteria of the formula.

It has been agreed that farmers' returns will be adjusted whenever the cost formula shows a change of more than two per cent during the dairy year. It has also been agreed that no more than two adjustments (at least three months apart) of this sort will be made in the course of the dairy year.

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D-42

For Immediate Release
11, DCR, DCR1

Subject: OPENING OF TWO MAJOR DAIRY FACILITIES IN QUEBEC

OTTAWA, September 28, 1979 -- Agriculture Minister John Wise today officially opened two important new facilities in the Quebec dairy industry.

This morning he opened a new $2.2-million evaporated milk processing plant in Ste. Claire de Dorchester. Nearly $500,000 of the capital cost was provided by the federal Department of Regional Economic Expansion, in addition to provincial grants.

This is one of five milk processing plants belonging to La Coopérative Laitière du Sud de Québec, a major force in the Canadian dairy industry with 3,000 producer-members.

The new plant, geared for export sales, can produce three million cases of evaporated milk per year, requiring about 300 million pounds of raw milk.

Later in the day, Mr. Wise went to the port at Quebec City for the official opening of a large storage facility on the pier.

The shed has capacity for 500,000 cases of evaporated milk, and will help the industry deliver about 100,000 tonnes to export markets. Mr. Wise pointed out that the modern, centralized operation could save marketing costs of about $1 million per year in export costs.

... 2

Next spring the Canadian Dairy Commission will also rent a nearby shed to handle 35,000 to 50,000 tonnes of skim milk powder exports per year. An estimated $500,000 will be saved due to the greater efficiency of this operation.

Movement of dairy products through the port will generate about $7.5 million in economic activity for the Quebec City area.

"Both the evaporated milk plant at Ste. Claire de Dorchester and the storage facilities at Quebec City are tangible evidence of the benefits that accrue to the Canadian economy when we take an aggressive approach to exports," Mr. Wise said.

By exporting evaporated milk rather than skim milk powder, savings of $10 million were achieved last year.

Also, the expanded market for evaporated milk will enable production of an additional three million hundredweights of milk for export this year.

"To encourage foreign sales we have launched a new program in co-operation with the provinces to set aside additional quota so dairymen can respond to export opportunities. So far the provinces of Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and British Columbia have indicated they have enough milk production to participate in the program," Mr. Wise said.

"The export ventures by the Canadian Dairy Commission are undertaken only after the domestic demand has been satisfied," Mr. Wise stressed.

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For more information, contact Rowan Lalonde, Canadian Dairy Commission, 613-998-9490

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D-65

For Immediate Release
11, DCR, DCRI

Subject: INDUSTRIAL MILK PRICE INCREASE

OTTAWA, December 28, 1979 -- Agriculture Minister John Wise announced today that the target returns for industrial milk would be increased from $31.01 per hectolitre ($13.67 per hundredweight) to $32.62 per hectolitre ($14.38 per hundredweight) for milk shipments for Canadian requirements effective January 1, 1980.

The target returns level is calculated according to the Returns Adjustment Formula established in 1975. The formula is monitored quarterly throughout the dairy year. It measures the change in farmers' average cash costs and the Consumer Price Index (which is used to reflect changes in the value of farmers' labor) plus other factors.

When he announced details of the dairy program for the current dairy year which began on August 1, 1979, Mr. Wise indicated that henceforth the Returns Adjustment Formula would trigger a price adjustment whenever a change of at least two per cent was indicated and provided there would be no more than two adjustments (at least three months apart) in the course of the dairy year. Under the previous policy, a price adjustment was triggered when a change of four per cent was indicated.

While an increase of slightly more than two per cent was indicated by the formula in mid-August, a delay in effecting any price changes until after the relatively heavy sales season for dairy products in November and December was considered appropriate.

"This policy has benefited consumers by maintaining stable prices for dairy products throughout the fall and Christmas season, while the new price level covering producer cost increases should not disturb the current stability of production quotas," Mr. Wise said.

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The target industrial milk price is achieved through the establishment of support prices on butter and skim milk powder, together with a direct federal subsidy paid to producers.

The Canadian Dairy Commission has been authorized to increase the support prices for butter by 13 cents per kilogram, and for skim milk powder by 12.9 cents per kilogram. (Both are about 5.9 cents per pound.) The new support price for butter will be $3.26 per kg ($1.48 per pound) and for skim milk powder will be $1.97 per kg ($0.894 per pound).

Retail prices for all dairy products such as cheese, yogurt and ice cream will likely reflect increased milk prices to producers.

There will be no direct impact on the price of table milk and cream, the pricing of which is determined at the provincial level.

Mr. Wise expressed his satisfaction with the high level of stability within the dairy industry. During the 16-month 1978-79 quota period, milk production in Canada came to within one-half per cent of national requirements.

The Minister noted the strong current demand for butter and cheese and indicated it is important for producers to ensure there is sufficient milk production to meet national requirements for dairy products.

Market Share Quota issued to producers is currently based on estimated national requirements of 43.22 million hectolitres (98 million hundredweights) and has remained unchanged since June 1977.

"In recent months there has been mounting evidence that consumption of dairy products is increasing, and even with the effects of this price increase, I am confident that the trend will continue," Mr. Wise said.

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For more information, media may contact: Rowan Lalonde, Canadian Dairy Commission (613) 998-9490.

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E-1

For Immediate Release
11, DCR, DCRI

Subject: COMMISSIONER RETIRES FROM CANADIAN DAIRY COMMISSION

OTTAWA, January 7, 1980 -- Agriculture Minister John Wise today announced he has reluctantly accepted the resignation of H.M. Scotty Johnson from the Canadian Dairy Commission.

Mr. Johnson is leaving for health reasons.

Before his appointment to the Commission in June 1973, Mr. Johnson operated a dairy farm in the Moose Jaw area of Saskatchewan. He was a director and member of the executive board of the Dairy Producers Cooperative (formerly called Saskatchewan Cooperative Creameries). He was also a past president of the Milk Producers Association of Moose Jaw.

"Scotty's contribution in the development of the Commission during a period of changing domestic and world markets for Canadian dairy products is well known to those in the industry," Mr. Wise said. "He has been particularly responsible for communication and discussions between the Commission and the provincial governments and producer agencies."

Mr. Johnson leaves at a time of stability and vitality in the industry. The dairy industry is vastly changed from when he first joined the Commission. The national milk marketing plan has grown based on the co-operative sharing of national requirements for dairy products among provinces and producers, and this concept is serving producers, processors and consumers as well.

"I join all Scotty's friends and associates across Canada in wishing him well," Mr. Wise said.

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E-10

For Immediate Release
11, DCR, DCRI

Subject: INCREASED QUOTA FOR INDUSTRIAL MILK

OTTAWA, January 28, 1980 -- Agriculture Minister John Wise today announced that the Canadian Milk Supply Management Committee has increased national market sharing quota (M.S.Q.) for industrial milk by two per cent, effective immediately.

This brings total national M.S.Q. to 46.64 million hectolitres (105.8 million hundredweights). This is made up of expected national requirements of 44.1 million hectolitres (100 million hundredweights) plus a production tolerance "sleeve" of 5.8 per cent. Beyond that, an additional 1.32 million hectolitres (three million hundredweights) of M.S.Q. was earlier made available to the provinces for dairy product exports.

The increased quota will be distributed to individual producers by their provincial milk marketing agencies.

Since the federal subsidy will be paid on industrial milk and cream shipments needed for domestic consumption, the additional quota is expected to result in increased subsidy payments to producers of $5.3 million.

The subsidy is $6.03 per hectolitre ($2.66 per hundredweight), basis 3.6 kg of butterfat per hectolitre.

"The increased requirement for industrial milk is due to stronger demand for dairy products, in particular cheese and butter. The December sales of butter by the Canadian Dairy Commission were almost double those of comparative periods of the last three years," Mr. Wise said.

"I am pleased that after years of static or declining dairy product consumption, we now see this resurgence in demand," Mr. Wise said.

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"The strong demand, caused largely by improved marketing and promotion, shows a trend I hope will continue through the decade."

Mr. Wise urged dairy producers to increase their winter milk shipments to ensure a plentiful year-round supply of fresh dairy products.

The Canadian Milk Supply Management Committee is responsible for ensuring that production of industrial milk meets market requirements. The committee is made up of representatives from provincial governments and producer agencies, and is chaired by the Canadian Dairy Commission.

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F-18

For Immediate Release
11

Subject: CONSULTATIONS TO DISCUSS LONG-TERM DAIRY POLICY

OTTAWA, February 27, 1981 -- Agriculture Minister Eugene Whelan and the Minister for Consumer and Corporate Affairs, Andre Ouellet, today announced that public meetings to discuss the federal government's long-term dairy policy will be held in Ottawa.

The meetings will take place March 23 and 24 in the main boardroom of the Sir John Carling Building, Agriculture Canada's headquarters.

"The consultations will allow national and provincial groups to express their views about the current dairy policy and about the direction the industry should take in the 1980s," Mr. Whelan said.

Mr. Ouellet said a number of industry and consumer groups, including the Dairy Farmers of Canada, the National Farmers Union, l'Union des producteurs agricoles, l'Office des producteurs de lait du Quebec, the Ontario Milk Marketing Board, the Consumers' Association of Canada, the Retail Council of Canada, and the National Dairy Council, as well as representatives of provincial governments are being invited to submit a written brief and to present their views personally at the meeting. In addition, the Canadian Dairy Commission will be obtaining provincial views about the long-term dairy policy through the Canadian Milk Supply Management Committee.

Other interested groups and individuals are encouraged to submit written briefs to the Minister of Agriculture, Sir John Carling Building, Ottawa, K1A 0C5, by March 13, 1981.

Mr. Whelan and Mr. Ouellet said they would be issuing a discussion paper in the next few days that would serve as a basis for public consultations on the federal dairy policy. A copy of the paper will be available upon request.

For further information, contact:

Rowan Lalonde
Canadian Dairy Commission
(613) 998-9490

or

Ron Robert
Consumer and Corporate Affairs
(819) 997-3146

or

Philip Stone
Agriculture Canada
(613) 995-9554

"We are fortunate to have a dynamic farm and food industry. At this juncture, as we enter the 1990s, we must consider the challenges facing us and take steps to ensure that our industry can prosper and continue to make its important contribution to the national economy," Mr. Mazankowski said.

"We will be working closely with the provinces, farm organizations and other industry, consumer and public interest groups to plan and implement an improved policy framework. The conference is a key element in this process. Other consultation activities are already underway, such as the dairy task force, and the conference will give rise to other such initiatives."

Due to the national policy conference, Agriculture Canada will not be holding its annual Agricultural Outlook Conference this year. However, departmental forecasts will be distributed as usual and departmental economists will be available at the Congress Centre to discuss their economic projections with industry and media representatives.

A detailed conference agenda will be available within the next two weeks. Registration forms for the conference can be obtained by calling **1-800-267-5185** (the toll-free line will be in operation beginning October 17), or by writing to this address:

National Agri-Food Policy Conference
Agriculture Canada
Sir John Carling Building
Room 616
Ottawa, Ont.
K1A 0C5

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For more information, media may contact:

Tom Van Dusen
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Market Outlook and Analysis
Agriculture Canada
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Agriculture Canada

news release

For Immediate Release

NATIONAL AGRI-FOOD POLICY CONFERENCE

OTTAWA, Oct. 12, 1989 -- Agriculture Minister Don Mazankowski today announced that a national agri-food policy conference will be held December 11 and 12 at the Ottawa Congress Centre.

The conference will be a working meeting where farm leaders, food industry executives, agriculture ministers and other interested parties discuss the major issues facing Canada's agri-food sector. Agenda topics will include marketing and value-added; supply management; safety net programs; financing and managing the family farm; food safety; transportation policy; and sustainable agriculture.

"In early November, the federal government will publish a discussion paper which explores these key issues," Mr. Mazankowski said. "It is my hope that the paper will stimulate a new dialogue among industry stakeholders, governments and consumers.

"The national conference will provide a first public forum for all of the partners in Canada's food production and marketing chain to discuss future directions and the evolution of policies and programs to meet current and future needs."

Mr. Mazankowski launched a review of federal agri-food policies earlier this year. His provincial colleagues have voiced their support for the review and endorsed the need for broad consultations leading to a comprehensive, national framework for agri-food policies.

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- 30 -

For more information, media may contact:

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